

Seven Blocks

JAMES BARRON

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NEW YORK – It was only seven blocks. The boy had begged and his parents had said yes, he could walk part of the way home from day camp by himself. Together they had memorized the route. They had practiced a dry run together. But little Leiby Kletzky, 8, got lost. And Monday, his first taste of doing the grown-up thing, of walking alone through Borough Park, Brooklyn, turned out to be his last. The New York police commissioner, Ray-



Members of the community gather outside the apartment where 8-year-old Leiby Kletzky lived in Brooklyn, whose remains were found nearby, in New York, July 13, 2011. After two days of searching for Kletzky, investigators discovered what they believed to be his dismembered remains in a third-floor attic refrigerator of a Brooklyn man and in a trash bin on a street. The man was in custody and being questioned, the police said.

(Andrea Morales/The New York Times)

mond W. Kelly, said it was "happenstance" that the boy had asked directions from Levi Aron, 35, a supply-store clerk and former security guard who lives less than two miles from the Kletzkys. The police said Aron killed Leiby, who would have turned 9 later this month, and cut up his body. Detectives found pieces in a refrigerator-freezer in Aron's tiny attic apartment – there was blood on the handles, police officials said – and in a suitcase in a trash bin a couple of miles away.

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Party Politics

President, Republicans look for options in debt standoff

Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-Minn.) speaks at a press conference about the debt ceiling, in Washington, July 13, 2011. Bachmann, a 2012 Republican presidential hopeful, reiterated that she would vote no on raising the debt ceiling and called on President Barack Obama to "tell the truth" about the debt limit.

(Philip Scott Andrews/The New York Times)

CARL HULSE

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WASHINGTON – The Federal Reserve chairman,

Ben S. Bernanke, warned on Wednesday of a "huge financial calamity" if President Barack Obama and

the Republicans cannot agree on a budget deal that allows the federal debt ceiling to be increased.

Moody's, the ratings agency, threatened a credit downgrade, citing a "rising possibility" that no deal would be reached before the government's borrowing authority hits its limit on Aug. 2.

And the latest bipartisan negotiating session on Wednesday evening ended in heightened tension if not outright discord. Republicans said Obama had abruptly walked out in an agitated state; Democrats described the president as having summed up with an impassioned case for action before bringing the meeting to a close and leaving.

Across Washington, officials were weighed down with a sense that they were hurtling toward a crisis. Grim-faced lawmakers spent the day shuttling from meeting to meeting in search of a way out of the fix.



People react moments after a bomb exploded at Zaveri bazar in Mumbai, India, Wednesday, July 13, 2011. Three explosions rocked India's busy financial capital at rush-hour Wednesday, killing at least eight people and injuring 70 in what officials described as another terror strike on the city hit by militants nearly three years ago.

(AP Photo/Pravin Jain)

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Lost on walk home, NYC boy found dead and dismembered

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Investigators struggled to find a motive from a suspect whose past did not suggest any warning signs of such a gruesome act. Suddenly, an Orthodox Jewish community that had blanketed streets and subway stations with missing-child posters, that had promised a six-figure reward, had to face the devastating reality: Leiby was dead, and the suspect

grainy footage gave them glimpses of Leiby walking from the Nechmod Day Camp at the Yeshiva Boy-an at 1205 44th St., at about 5:05 p.m. on Monday. But the boy, wearing a striped shirt with a bag over his shoulder and another dangling at his waist, missed the turn onto 13th Avenue on his way to meet his parents at the intersection of 13th and 50th Street. He kept going straight, but "at various points he appears to be lost," Paul J. Browne,

police said, and the door to his apartment was ajar when they arrived early Wednesday. Aron was inside, stripped to the waist on a hot summer night. Kelly said the police asked if Aron knew about Leiby and if he knew where the boy was. Aron "nodded toward the kitchen," Kelly said. They saw the blood on the handles of the refrigerator-freezer. They opened it. They found a cutting board with knives, and parts of Leiby's dismembered body.



Members of the community gather outside the apartment where 8-year-old Leiby Kletzky lived in Brooklyn, whose remains were found nearby, in New York, July 13, 2011. After two days of searching for Kletzky, investigators discovered what they believed to be his dismembered remains in a third-floor attic refrigerator of a Brooklyn man and in a trash bin on a street. The man was in custody and being questioned, the police said.

(Andrea Morales/The New York Times)

was also Jewish, living not far away. His death also forced parents, not just in Borough Park but across the city, to wonder, to speculate, to second-guess themselves: Was it one of those headline-grabbing tragedies that could have been avoided? When is a child ready to go it alone, anyway? The grim discovery came after two exhausting days in which the community mobilized, searched and searched again for the only boy in a family of five children. Detectives knocked on doors. They looked down from helicopters. They caught a break when they watched video from surveillance cameras. The

the chief spokesman for the Police Department, said. On another camera, he was seen standing for seven minutes across the street from a dentist's office, apparently waiting while Aron went in and paid a bill. "It's very sad," Browne said. "The boy looks like he's just found somebody who's going to help him find his way home." Another camera showed Leiby getting into a brown 1990 Honda and being driven away. The bill from the dentist's office and the license plate number on the Honda led the police to 466 E. Second St., a house owned by Aron's father, Jack. Aron lives on the top floor, the

Aron made incriminating statements, Kelly said. Investigators believe the boy was suffocated, and later dismembered to aid in the disposal of his body, according to a law enforcement official. Kelly said Aron told investigators that he had panicked and killed Leiby – apparently not immediately, but only after he realized the extent to which the Hasidic community and the police had mobilized to find him. Aron offered investigators a rough chronology of events, Browne said, but it was unclear when the boy was killed. The suspect's motive for taking Leiby off the street was also unclear. □



President Barack Obama meets with Congressional leaders in the Cabinet Room of the White House in Washington about raising the national debt limit on July 13, 2011. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) warned Wednesday that allowing a federal default could have disastrous political consequences for his party and "destroy" the Republican brand. From left: House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), House Speaker John Boehner (R-Ohio), Obama, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.), McConnell and Senate Majority Whip Dick Durbin (D-Ill.).

(Doug Mills/The New York Times)

President, Republicans look for options in debt standoff

Continued from Front Page

The stakes are high, for the economy, the financial markets and both parties. But the pressure was particularly intense on Republican leaders, who only weeks ago seemed to be on the offensive and in a strong position to extract major concessions from Obama and the Democrats. For months, the Republican leaders have emphatically pledged that there will be no increase in the federal debt ceiling absent huge cuts in government spending and fundamental changes in popular social programs, all without the whiff of a tax increase. Now, with negotiations stalled and a potential default by the U.S. government just over the horizon, they are being held to those promises by their own rank-and-file, leaving them in a bind that is defying easy resolution and putting them at risk of being blamed if things end badly. Behind closed doors and by phone, they groped for a solution and struggled to assert some kind of control over the situation as rank-and-file Republican members, especially in the House, grew more confrontational.

Panic had not yet set in, but the worry and tension

were evident as seasoned lawmakers of both parties whose experience told them that Congress always finds a white-knuckle way to avert disaster wondered if this was going to be the time when it did not. "Our problem is, we made a big deal about this for three months," said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C. "How many Republicans have been on TV saying, 'I am not going to raise the debt limit,'" said Graham, including himself in the mix of those who did so. "We have no one to blame but ourselves." Potential last-minute options were being gamed out around Capitol Hill. Senate Republicans were pushing their counterparts in the House to deliver some legislation, which could take the form of a balanced budget plan due on the House floor next week. A bipartisan group that had been working on a major deficit-cutting plan in the Senate was trying again to produce a proposal. And Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the Republican leader and procedural maestro, was pushing his plan that would allow a debt limit increase to clear Congress without Republican fingerprints – and without the guaranteed cuts many in his party are demanding. □

Obama raises \$47 million

NICHOLAS CONFESSORE

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President Barack Obama raised \$47 million for his re-election campaign in the three-month period that ended June 30, his aides said Wednesday, far outpacing the Republican candidates who hope to replace him.

Obama also raised about \$38 million for the Democratic National Committee, using a series of joint fundraisers this spring to fill party coffers and begin building a field operation for the general election. The total haul — about \$86 million — broke the record for joint fundraising between a president and his national party committee in any quarter of a non-election year, reflecting the significant powers of an incumbent president to raise money and the progress Obama's campaign has made in recent months to rebuild the donor network that helped him to victory in 2008.

"The first weeks of this campaign have been a test of our grass-roots strength, and the results are in," Jim Messina, Obama's campaign manager, said in a conference call with reporters Wednesday morning.

Messina said 552,462 people had contributed to the president so far this year, more than had given to Obama in all of 2007, and that the president had raised money from more than 260,000 new donors. The top fundraiser in the Republican field so far, Mitt Romney, announced last week that he had raised \$18.25 million in the same period. That is more than four times the amount any of his Republican rivals raised but far less than Obama has taken in, reflecting the slow start to the Republican primary and the unwillingness of many major donors to commit to a candidate this early in the cycle. □

Betty Ford's body in Michigan for 2nd service

KATHY BARKS HOFFMAN
Associated Press
GRAND RAPIDS, Michigan (AP) —

Betty Ford returned Wednesday to the city where the former first lady grew up, as hundreds lined the streets in front of the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum as her casket arrived for a memorial service.

The service was followed by a public viewing at the museum, where Ford's flower-draped casket laid, surrounded by an honor guard and with a softly lit presidential seal overhead. At least 300 mourners had paid their respects Wednesday evening half-way through the four-hour viewing, which followed a similar, and sometimes tearful, send-off by thousands of well-wishers in California earlier in the day.

Ford, the accidental first lady, was thrust into the White House when Richard Nixon resigned as president on Aug. 9, 1974, and her husband, then vice president, assumed the nation's highest office. Although she always said she never expected nor wanted to be first lady, she quickly embraced the role.

After another memorial service Thursday in Michigan, Ford is to be buried next to her husband on the grounds of his presidential museum. Gerald Ford died in 2006.

Hundreds of mourners greeted the casket as it arrived at the museum from

lic viewing. On Tuesday, a service at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Palm Desert, California, was attended by 800 people, including former President George W. Bush and first lady Michelle Obama.

Steve Avink of nearby Jenison had watched the cere-

praised Betty Ford's "openness about drugs and addiction."

Thousands of people have signed condolence books in Grand Rapids for Ford since Saturday.

In California, the hearse carrying Ford's body drove through desert resort cities as people lined the streets and hoisted American flags to say goodbye to the beloved former first lady, who died Friday at age 93.

Some wiped tears from their eyes.

"The family was overwhelmed with the number of people," family spokeswoman Barbara Lewandowski said. "They are so heartfelt and grateful."

Thousands more turned out for Wednesday's motorcade, including people who sat along the route in beach chairs, some shirtless in the warm, sunny weather.

A dozen senior citizens seated in wheelchairs held up a sign reading "Monterey Palms Healthcare" as the hearse passed by.

In front of Rancho Mirage Fire Station No. 1, firefighters stood outside, with emergency lights blinking on their vehicles. □



Former first lady Betty Ford's casket is carried in by military honor guard for the arrival ceremony Wednesday, July 13, 2011, at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum in Grand Rapids, Mich. (AP Photo/The Grand Rapids Press, Rex Larsen, Pool)

the Gerald R. Ford International Airport. They then slowly walked by Ford's mahogany casket covered in pink and white flowers.

A private ceremony attended by Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder and other dignitaries was held at the museum prior to the pub-

monies when Gerald Ford's casket returned to Grand Rapids for burial in January 2007 and was at the airport Wednesday when Betty Ford's casket arrived from California.

Like hundreds of others in Michigan, Avink wanted to pay his respects. He

Kennedys at odds over compound

FRANK PHILLIPS

The Kennedy clan will gather Friday for a wedding at its Cape Cod compound amid tensions about the future of the property and following a public airing of dissension within the storied political family.

Negotiations are underway to transfer ownership of the main Kennedy home in coming months to the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate, a proposal that has raised concerns among family members who live on adjacent property, according to two associates close to the family who spoke on condition of anonymity. The senator, who died in August 2009, had stated in his will that he ultimately wanted the property to be turned over to the institute, which is now being built next to the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library at Columbia Point. He gave the rights to the house to his widow, Vicki, and his three children, and they are expected to relinquish them very soon, according to the family associates.

Vicki Kennedy, while carrying out her husband's wishes, has unsettled other family members in and around the

compound, particularly Ethel Kennedy, whose compound home is next to the main house. Delicate negotiations are attempting to placate those concerns, the associates said. Institute interim president Jack Wilson declined to comment on the issue. Messages left for Vicki Kennedy were not returned.

The family will gather in Hyannis Port Friday for the marriage of the senator's youngest child, Patrick, just days after a public fissure within the family was published in The New York Times. The newspaper reported Tuesday that the Robert F. Kennedy family is threatening to withhold 63 boxes of his soon-to-be-released papers from the presidential library because they feel the former attorney general is not getting the respect there that he deserves. The Globe had reported in January that the RFK family was in a dispute with the presidential library over making the contents of the boxes fully available to researchers.

"There is a very large building, and there is a remembrance of President Kennedy and there's one for Senator Edward Kennedy," Joseph P. Kenne-

dy II, Robert's son and a former congressman, told the newspaper. "But there is nothing out there for Robert Kennedy."

He declined to comment to the Globe. Thomas J. Putnam, director of the presidential library, said Wednesday that the library is "still hopeful" that an agreement will be reached with the Robert Kennedy family.

"We can only say we do our best to honor him," Putnam said. "We hope Congressman Kennedy and the rest of the family feel we are doing the best we can within the presidential library system."

Such a breach in family cohesion would have been unheard of in the decades when Edward Kennedy was the clan's patriarch. After the death of his brothers, he used a strong hand to present a united family front through scandals, tragedy, and numerous political campaigns.

The 21-room home and 2.4-acre waterfront lot at the heart of the Kennedy compound, purchased by Joe and Rose in 1926, has been largely unused since the senator's death two years ago. □

Mixed view on Pawlenty's record as Governor

TRIP GABRIEL

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On the presidential campaign trail, Tim Pawlenty, who in January completed two terms as governor of Minnesota, runs largely as an implacable foe of government spending, saying he drew "a line in the sand" in his home state and stood tough against Democrats during a government shutdown in 2005.

Now, with Minnesota struggling through Week 2 of another government shutdown over a budget shortfall, Pawlenty's fiscal record as governor is drawing closer scrutiny. And while Pawlenty did face economic and political challenges in balancing the state's budget each year, his record includes what critics say was an overreliance on one-time accounting maneuvers that failed to address the underlying problems.

The current shutdown, with interstate truckers barred from rest stops and 22,000 state workers placed on furlough, is over how to close a \$5 billion deficit that the state finance department says is largely the result of holes left by Pawlenty's final budget.

Minnesota's bond rating was downgraded last week by the national firm Fitch

Ratings, which cited the current shutdown as well as "nonrecurring balancing tools" in earlier years that have left the state on shaky financial ground.

"That's the classic definition of how you kick the can into the future," said Arne Carlson, a former Republican governor of Minnesota who

which his Democratic successor, Gov. Mark Dayton, is deadlocked with Republican majorities in the Legislature.

"Everybody is responsible for the budgets on their watch," Pawlenty said in an interview. "I've been gone for six months, and the last budget on my watch is in



Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty in his office at the state Capitol in St. Paul, Minn. While Pawlenty balanced the state budget without new taxes, critics say he relied on one-time accounting maneuvers that contributed to the current government shutdown.

(Ruth Fremson/The New York Times)

is a critic of Pawlenty's fiscal management. "He basically reduced the weight in Pocket A and increased the weight in Pocket B, and said, 'Look at what a great job I did.' This was all sleight of hand."

Pawlenty pushed back aggressively on the suggestion that he bore any responsibility for the current crisis, in

the black."

Dismissing the budget projections showing a large shortfall, he said, for example, that about \$2 billion could be trimmed by continuing to delay state aid to public schools into the future, which Democrats have agreed to.

In addition to delaying money owed to schools,

Minnesota under Pawlenty balanced its books by using money from a tobacco industry settlement meant for health care and \$2.3 billion from the federal stimulus.

"They were like drowning sailors looking for stopgap measures, hoping the economy would rebound and revenue would increase," said Lawrence R. Jacobs, a political scientist at the University of Minnesota. Pawlenty points to having significantly reduced the growth rate of state spending as governor for the first time in Minnesota history and balancing budgets without new taxes.

But though he largely held the line on increasing state taxes, residential property taxes soared 38.2 percent during the Pawlenty years, as cities and towns sought to maintain services like police forces and schools, according to Minnesota 2020, a progressive research group.

Pawlenty is hardly alone among presidential aspirants in having a record as governor that complicates his efforts to advance a clear-cut image. Mitt Romney is shadowed by the health care plan he signed in Massachusetts. Jon M. Huntsman Jr. may come under scrutiny by conservatives for advancing civil unions for same-sex couples in Utah.

Many other states used one-time accounting maneuvers to balance their

budgets during the recessions of the last decade. Pawlenty inherited a deficit in 2003, his first year in office, and his attempts to balance budgets while fulfilling a no-new-taxes pledge were checked by Democratic or split legislatures, which accused him of undermining schools and social services.

"I love my state, it's a beautiful state, but it's a very liberal place," he said. "That's the tradition I was trying to break. We didn't finish it, but I moved it in the right direction."

In many ways Pawlenty's final budget, in which he outflanked the Democratic Legislature, was his signature moment.

Minnesota enacts budgets on two-year cycles. In spring 2009, Pawlenty signed every spending bill that Democratic lawmakers sent him, surprising opponents.

"As this thing progresses, he's going to outmaneuver us," Dick Cohen, a Democratic state senator, recalled thinking at the time. Pawlenty then vetoed the Democrats' revenue bill to pay for the programs, including a tax increase primarily on the wealthy. Next, after the Legislature adjourned, he invoked emergency powers to balance the budget by making \$2.7 billion in unilateral cuts, including from the University of Minnesota and health care programs. □

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Rural lawmakers retain power as states change

WILLIAM YARDLEY

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RITZVILLE, Wash. — State Sen. Mark Schoesler might seem a marginalized man at first glance. In this ever bluer state, he is deep red Republican. In his dusty hometown here in rural eastern Washington, the population is in perpetual decline and Main Street resists revival. Although it has been nearly 20 years since Schoesler became a state lawmaker, fewer and fewer of his colleagues in Olympia, the capital, have a clue about what he does for a living.

"There were people who had tree fruits, blueberry farms, hops, grapes," Schoesler recalled of his fellow lawmakers in 1992 when he was first elected to the state House. "Now, I think that I can say that I'm the only one in the Senate whose primary living is farming."

But please pause the eulogy right there, because while Schoesler is a dryland wheat farmer from the middle of nowhere, he also happens to be the Senate Republican floor leader. And this spring, when push came to shove in the final days of the state's painful budget negotiations, with a gaping \$5 billion deficit to close, Schoesler was among those carving out common ground with the majority Democrats from Seattle and other cities. For Schoesler, it was a peak.

"I'd never negotiated anything real significant in the budget before," he said. "There's things in it I can be proud of, having a role in it."

The 2010 census confirmed the same sad trend confirmed by many censuses before it: As Americans continue to migrate to cities and suburbs, rural places are steadily losing people and political power. Yet in state capitols scattered across the country, even as legislative redistricting now under way inevitably will eliminate or drastically alter some rural districts, there are also plenty of powerful rural lawmakers who have shown the ability to defy geographic shifts, or shift

with them, and many intend to keep doing so.

Under Virginia's new redistricting plan, approved this summer, Republican leaders moved the rural southwestern district of Ward L. Armstrong, a Democrat who is the minority leader in the House of Delegates, to the state's growing suburbs outside Washington. Armstrong, whose district was also significantly redrawn a decade ago, decided quickly to move to a neighboring district. It happened that he grew up in that area, in the small town of Bassett, with just more than 1,000 people, and that his mother-in-law, now in a nursing home, still owned a furnished house there.

"My political obituary's been written twice before and never published," Armstrong said. "They haven't beaten me yet."

But unlike 10 years ago, this time he is running against a Republican incumbent, Charles D. Poindexter, who is receiving significant financing from state party leaders. Armstrong is quick to play the seniority card and says he represents an important rural counterpoint to the state's urban power centers.

"It's not Ward Armstrong that suffers," he said. "It's

mostly white men and often from states in the South, Midwest and West that have strong rural traditions, even if their populations are now more urban. They succeed in part because experienced hands are still in demand, even amid calls for change in state Capitols. There can be a

Republican, and Arnie Roblan, a Democrat, come from neighboring rural districts in the heavily forested areas in the southwestern part of the state. Both expect to hang on to their districts after they are redrawn — and each man wants to win outright control of the House. But they credit their

will come a time, maybe the next generation, when that won't be there. But there's still quite a connection there."

Gary Moncrief, a professor of political science at Boise State University who studies state legislatures, said the lag between demographic and political shifts could



Washington State Sen. Mark Schoesler at his property where he farms wheat outside of Ritzville, Wash., July 8, 2011. As legislative redistricting now under way inevitably will eliminate or drastically alter some rural districts, powerful rural lawmakers like Schoesler have shown the ability to defy geographic shifts.

(Rajah Bose/The New York Times)

paradox in their power: The regions they come from are often in decline, so their seats may not be hotly contested.

"Generally, as a rule of thumb, you don't see se-

shared small-town roots for their ability to work together and, to some degree, for their selection by other lawmakers as co-speakers.

"It's our basic beliefs about how people should behave and that your word is your bond," Roblan said. "Your neighbor is your neighbor." Many political experts say small-town mythology and nostalgia can help rural lawmakers extend their careers. In Idaho, a vast majority of growth in the past decade has come around Boise, the state's largest city and a relative Democratic stronghold, but the Legislature is controlled by rural Republicans and is expected to stay that way even as redistricting is likely to eliminate some rural seats. Perhaps the most important r-word in Idaho politics is rancher.

"You'll have urban people that say, 'Well, my father was raised on a farm,' or, 'When I first started out, I was on a farm,' " said Bruce Newcomb, a rancher, Republican and former House speaker from Burley, population 9,000. "There

help rural lawmakers.

"Everybody wants to talk about how redistricting is going to change things, but the reality is it doesn't change things overnight," Moncrief said. "It changes things very slowly. Most of those rural legislators don't actually get washed away. They wind up in a district that's a little more suburban, but they still know how to get elected, for a while." The changes usually affect Republicans more than Democrats, who long ago lost power in most rural areas. In some states, particularly in the West, Republicans are sometimes seen as too rural, preoccupied with natural resource development and land rights and lacking common ground with voters in the region's growing urban and suburban areas who worry about education and quality of life issues.

Schoesler, whose district will be redrawn to maintain an approximately equal population to others, could add voters from the edge of the area, near the Hanford Nuclear Site. □



The downtown area of State Sen. Mark Schoesler's district, Ritzville, Wash., July 8, 2011

(Rajah Bose/The New York Times)

the people of this district that suffer from losing the seniority that offsets the growth in those other places."

Like other longtime lawmakers, representatives of rural areas in states without term limits tend to hold on longer. Those with the most longevity, and power, are

nior leadership coming from embattled districts," Schoesler said. "Leaders have to do unpopular things, so you tend to see both parties look for safe seats to groom leadership in."

In Oregon, the co-speakers of the evenly divided state House, Bruce Hanna, a

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A Mormon spectacle, way off Broadway

PETER APPLEBOME

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MANCHESTER, N.Y. — With its cast of 700, 1,300 costumes, 10-level stage and thrill-a-minute special effects of earthquakes, floods, fireballs, airborne deities and burnings at the stake, the annual Hill Cumorah Pageant, one could argue, has more in common with the spectacle of "Spider-Man" than with the merry snark of "The Book of Mormon."

But then the pageant — staged here since 1937, on the very hill where, it is said, an angel named Moroni directed Joseph Smith to uncover golden plates 188 years ago — really is the Book of Mormon, a Cecil B. DeMille-style presentation of the holy book rather than the cheerfully profane Broadway version.

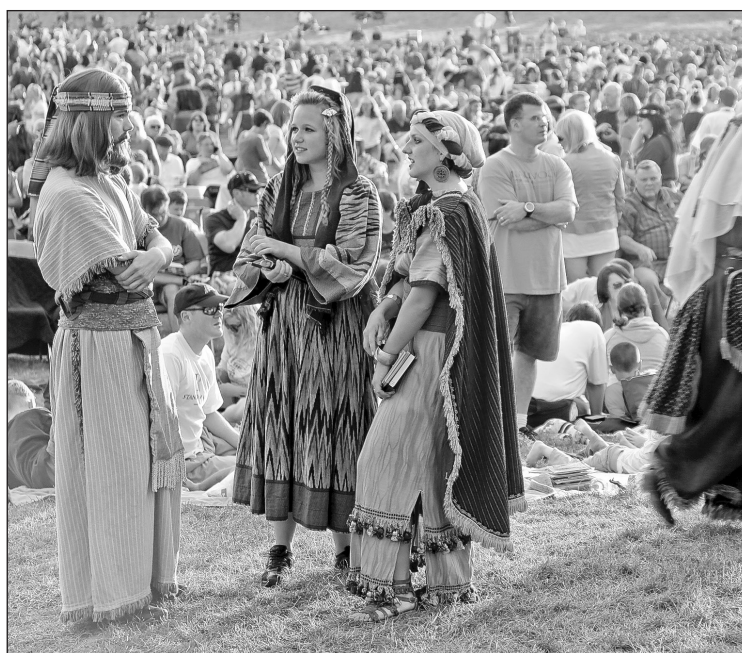
This one begins with a prophet named Lehi warning the people of Jerusalem about 600 years before the birth of Christ that they must repent and, after side trips to ancient America, ends with the message of the Book of Mormon filling the world and the Savior's return just around the corner.

The setting, with a statue of Moroni towering above, and the price — free — will never be confused with West 49th Street in Manhattan. But if you want to get the Mormon view of the extended Mormon moment, including the Broadway show and the two Mormon presidential contenders, there are few better places than this combination of a white-shirt pilgrimage to Mecca and a G-rated version of Bonnaroo. The pageant began last weekend

and runs through Saturday. Message 1 is that Mormons are not totally oblivious to the satiric potential in their famously square culture.

"Mormons are weird —

I don't think so," said Benjamin King, 26, a student at West Virginia University, who has been in the pageant since he was 18. "It's not like there's a new fad.



Costumed actors mingle with the crowd prior to a performance at the annual Hill Cumorah Pageant in Palmyra, N.Y., July 8, 2011. The pageant, staged here since the 1930s on the very hill where, it is said an angel named Moroni directed Joseph Smith to uncover the golden scriptures in 1823, depicts the origins of the Mormon holy book.

(Guy V. Solimano/The New York Times)

we're strange people; we get it," said Rob Moffat, one of the show's production managers and an actor, singer and songwriter in Los Angeles.

"But we're OK with the lifestyle we've chosen, and it comes from a very true place in the heart."

Message 2 is that few Mormons expect their collective 15 minutes of fame to change them much, other than perhaps providing the opportunity for more outsiders to take a look under the hood.

"I got interviewed by a lady locally, who was asking if Mormons are becoming more mainstream, and

Maybe we'll have a Mormon president, like a new pair of stretch pants. Instead I think people are seeing the values we've always had."

Every July, about 35,000 Mormons are drawn here, about 25 miles southeast of Rochester, where, it is said, God and Christ appeared to Smith in 1820 in a peaceful grove. Three years later, the story goes, Smith dug up the gold plates, which were buried 1,400 years ago and which he translated and published as the Book of Mormon in 1830. Missionaries began gathering here annually in the 1920s. □

Gay immigrant wants to halt deportation while awaiting court's gay marriage ruling

SUSAN CARROLL

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An attorney for a gay Costa Rican immigrant married to a U.S. citizen plans to ask a Houston judge today to halt deportation proceedings while the courts weigh the future of a federal law forbidding marriage between same-sex partners. David Gonzalez, a 35-year-old accountant from Costa Rica who overstayed his tourist visa, is scheduled to appear before a Houston immigration judge this morning, accompanied by his partner, U.S. citizen Mario Ramirez, whom he married in California in 2008.

For years, Gonzalez said, he dreaded this day, but his hopes have been buoyed by a spate of high-profile cases involving same-sex couples and by the support of Ramirez, his "soul mate." "I am not afraid anymore," Gonzalez said. "I am glad this day is coming — whatever the outcome."

The Houston case follows on the heels of several recent decisions that have — at least temporarily — spared gay and lesbians in long-term relationships with U.S. citizens from deportation. On Wednesday, a San Francisco immigration judge postponed for two years the deportation proceedings against a Venezuelan man married to a U.S. citizen. In June, the U.S. government cancelled deportation proceedings for a Venezuelan man in New Jersey married to an American man — a high-profile case that immigrant and gay advocates said signaled a major shift toward greater leniency for same-sex couples in immigration

proceedings.

"Certainly the families and couples we work with are more hopeful today than really at any prior point," said Steve Ralls, a spokesman for the national advocacy group Immigration Equality. The issue has gained traction since the Obama administration questioned the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which bars the federal government from recognizing same-sex marriages. Immigrant and gay advocates have asked the government to stop deporting gay and lesbian couples who could be eligible for family-based green cards if the law is found to be unconstitutional. But the idea of granting any kind of immigration benefits to same-sex couples remains highly controversial, and has met with staunch opposition from immigration-control advocates and from Christian conservatives who oppose gay marriage. "Until the overall definition of marriage is changed by Congress and signed by the government, any attempt to treat same-sex couples as spouses for the purposes of immigration is just a lawless act — there is no nice way to put it," said Mark Krikorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Studies, which advocates for stricter immigration controls. So far, the government has not made any blanket policy changes involving same-sex couples in immigration proceedings, said Gillian Christensen, an Immigration and Customs Enforcement spokeswoman. □

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Rebels and Gadhafi forces vie for control of town

C.J. CHIVERS

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QAWALISH, Libya – Military forces loyal to Moammar Gadhafi counterattacked and briefly recaptured this front-line town from opposition forces Wednesday, but they were beaten back by a large rebel force late in the day. Though the battle was fluid and its outcome perhaps not final, by evening the fighting appeared to be confined to exchanges of rocket and mortar fire from a mile away or more and some skirmishing beyond the town's eastern edge. Armed rebels roamed the abandoned town again, but only after suffering many casualties. The hospital in Zintan, where the rebels' regional military command is, said it had treated 27 wounded men and received eight dead fighters by nightfall, and that other wounded fighters might have been taken to one or two other hospitals in the region. The renewed battle for Qawalish, set on a high plateau in mountainous western Libya, underscored the sense of slow progress or stalemate that has settled over what has become a midsummer desert war.

After seizing and looting Qawalish last week, the rebels maintained only a small force in the town. Their checkpoints and positions were barely dug in, their equipment was minimal and it often appeared that few people were alert to the dangers from the Gadhafi forces just down the road.

When those forces struck back, late Wednesday morning, they scattered and routed the rebels'

holding force.

Rebel radios throughout the region crackled with traffic saying that several of their fighters and perhaps two of their trucks had been captured. The Gadhafi forces, meanwhile, proceeded a few

lizing. Their forces swarmed the road in the midafternoon, driving toward the fighting in pickup trucks and personal cars. Some men hitchhiked with rifles to get to the new front lines, where the rebels' makeshift ground-to-ground rocket

One group of men jogged off the highway and up a hill just outside of town as rockets and mortar rounds exploded intermittently in the fields and hills nearby. "Welcome to my free country," one of the men said. He gave the name

the capital.

The group stayed on the hill briefly but backed off as incoming rockets struck the side facing Qawalish. They were a few dozen in number, and as the rockets exploded and the men ducked to the ground, they shouted "God is Great!" repeatedly to steel one another's nerves.

Some of the men, including one who gave the name Yusef, had no weapons. "I am from Tripoli," he said a few minutes later, crouching as rockets flew overhead from behind the rebel lines, returning fire into Qawalish. "I left my wife and children there to come here and fight," Yusef added. "It is dangerous, because I have no gun. But I can help – I can bring food, I can bring water. And maybe I will find a rifle today from one of Gadhafi's soldiers."

A short while later, the group climbed down the hill, returned to the trucks and drove into Qawalish, where the Gadhafi forces were pulling back as rebel strength grew. The town was back, at least for the moment, in rebel hands.

The losses to the Gadhafi soldiers were impossible to determine, as was the rationale for the counterattack. Though the attacking loyalists had entered the town with enough troops to scatter the few rebels there, they had not been bolstered with enough forces to hold what they had won.

Many more men were wounded. Several were dead. And the lines at the end of the day were almost exactly where they had been at dawn. □



Rebel fighters fire a 12.7 mm heavy machine gun down into Bir Ghanem, Libya, on July 12, 2011. Lawmakers in France voted on Tuesday to extend the country's mission in Libya, while the country's foreign minister made comments suggesting a political deal may be in the works to resolve the conflict.

(Bryan Denton/The New York Times)

miles farther west down the road into rebel territory, moving all but unchecked. Several towns back, however, the rebels were mobi-

launchers had settled into a duel with Gadhafi forces. Truckloads of men with rifles and machine guns pressed forward.

Isam, but he shielded his face and asked that his last name not be published because he feared reprisals against his family in Tripoli,

Poll: Western Europeans say China will overtake U.S.

DESMOND BUTLER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A poll in Europe finds that most West Europeans believe that China has either supplanted or will supplant the United States as the world's leading power.

The findings are part of a 22-nation poll Wednesday by the nonpartisan Pew Research Center.

The annual Global Attitudes Project poll found that despite Western Europe's doubts about the American projection of power, the United States retains a positive image in most of the countries surveyed. That continues a trend that began when Barack Obama became president in January 2009.

The poll also found widespread sentiment that China's growing military power was a bad thing. But it produced a more mixed picture of China's economic rise with more people in 13 countries saying that it was a good thing than those with a negative view. In Britain, for instance, 53 percent of respondents said China's economic growth was

good, while 71 percent said its growing military might was bad.

Despite the bullish view of China's rise in Western Eu-

spondents and 54 percent in Lebanon said China never will replace the United States as the leading power.

key, where only 10 percent of respondents expressed a favorable view. The ratings were similarly negative in Pakistan at 12 percent and

Pakistan (8 percent).

China also was viewed favorably in most countries but had positive ratings below 40 percent in Turkey, India, Germany, Japan and others.

Just over half of American respondents had a positive view of China, while only 44 percent of those from China thought positively of the United States, a drop of 14 percentage points since last year's poll. The sample in China was disproportionately urban and Pew estimates that it represents about 57 percent of the adult population.

Interviews were conducted mostly face-to-face, although telephone interviews were used in the U.S., Britain, France, Germany, Spain and Japan.

Sample sizes ranged from 700 people in Japan to 3,308 in China.

The poll was conducted March 18 to May 15 in the United States and 21 other countries.

The margin of sampling error ranged from plus or minus 2.5 percentage points in China to 5 percentage points in Israel. □



Workers clean an advertisement board for a computer retail shop in Beijing, China, Wednesday, July 13, 2011. China's rapid economic growth slowed in the latest quarter to a still robust 9.5 percent, easing fears of an abrupt slowdown and giving Beijing room to tighten controls to fight surging inflation.

(AP Photo/Ng Han Guan)

rope, respondents in other regions had a different estimation. Just over a third of Turkish respondents thought that China would supplant the United States and 60 percent of Japanese re-

Though the United States was viewed favorably by a majority of respondents in most of the countries, there were some notable exceptions. The U.S. image continued to erode in Tur-

in Jordan at 13 percent. Views of Obama ranged greatly. Confidence in the U.S. president was sky-high in some countries, like Germany (88 percent), but rock bottom in others, like

Mexico suspends search for 7 missing US tourists

MARK STEVENSON
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The Mexican navy on Wednesday suspended its search for seven U.S. men missing since a charter fishing boat capsized and sank in Mexico's Sea of Cortez on July 3.

The announcement came a day after the U.S. Coast Guard ended aerial searches, in which a C-130 Hercules aircrew had covered an 803-square-mile (2,080 square-kilometer) area off the Baja California coast. Mexican navy Lt. Sindy Espinoza said the naval search was "in a suspended phase," but could resume if new information on the sunken boat's whereabouts came to light. He said the navy would be alert for any reports from passing boats that might spot debris or other signs of the wreck.

"It's just a very sad day for all of us," Joelle Bautista, wife of missing Russell Bautista of Penngrove, California, said of the decision to suspend the search. "I just wish it was a bad dream."

Capt. Alonso Montalvo at the Baja California naval base in San Felipe said the navy "is maintaining its presence" in the area where the 105-foot (32-meter) fishing boat Erik went down about 60 miles (100 kilome-

ters) south of San Felipe.

The search has been complicated by uncertainty about the spot where the boat came to rest. Espinoza said Mexican divers had looked for the wreck but were unable to find anything.

The United States has offered to send deep-water divers to help with the search, but Mexico has so far used its own divers. The navy and other fishing boats pulled 19 fishermen and all 16 crew members from the water late Sunday. The survivors had clung to coolers, rescue rings and life vests for more than 16 hours after a sudden storm capsized the boat.

Most of the 27 U.S. tourists on board the ship were Northern California men who traveled to Mexico for an annual Independence Day fishing trip.

Craig Wong of Walnut Creek, California, who survived the sinking, likened the end of the search to shutting off a life-support machine for his brother Brian, who is missing. Brothers Gary and Glen Wong also survived the ordeal.

"My hope is that he is somewhere and the seven missing are somewhere on an island just surviving by the hour and by the day," Wong told San Francisco's KGO-TV. □

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Karzai buries a brother and appoints another

CARLOTTA GALL
R. KHAPALWAK

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KABUL, Afghanistan – President Hamid Karzai wept as he buried his half brother in the family graveyard just south of the city of Kandahar on Wednesday morning, but moved swiftly to nominate another brother in his place within an hour to reinforce family and political pre-eminence in his ancestral homeland of Kandahar.

The death of Ahmed Wali Karzai, the head of Kandahar's provincial council and the most powerful figure in southern Afghanistan, is a severe blow to the president, who relied on him as a critical source of political and financial power for the last 10 years. He was receiving guests at his Kandahar home Tuesday morning when he was shot in the head by a longtime associate for reasons that remain unclear.

After the funeral Karzai made a conciliatory gesture to over a thousand tribal elders and officials from all over southern Afghanistan who had gathered in a government palace, asking them to recognize Shah Wali Karzai, a brother

of Ahmed Wali, as the appointed elder of the family and leader of his Populzai tribe, to which the Karzais belong.

It was a moment to unite both the tribes and political support around him in the face of the continuing insurgency. But it was also a signal that the Karzais would be a continuing force in Kandahar, some of those who attended said. Yet it is Shah Wali's lack of political experience that makes him different from his brother and engenders concern among residents of Kandahar that he will not be able to manage the complicated tribal relations as his brother did.

"He can lead on family issues but I do not expect him to lead the people of Kandahar," said Hajji Atta Muhammad Alikozai, who heads a council of veteran resistance fighters in Kandahar.

Shah Wali Karzai also does not have the fearsome reputation of his brother Ahmed Wali and will not have the same iron grip over the local administration and the population, several elders in Kandahar said. "Ahmed Wali was very effective and strong – people were scared of him," Alikozai said. "I could not say anything in front of Ahmed Wali but I can before Shah Wali Khan," he said.

That loss of fear alone could herald the decline of the Karzais' power in Kandahar, he added. □

Venezuela: prison uprising ends after 27 days

FABIOLA SANCHEZ
Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)

— A prison uprising that caused seven deaths ended peacefully on its 27th day Wednesday when hundreds of inmates emerged from the embattled Rodeo II prison after negotiations with officials, Venezuelan authorities said.

Justice Minister Tareck El Aissami said on state television that the National Guard had taken control of the prison from inmates and that "we've managed for all of them to come down to the patios." "We celebrate the triumph of peace, dialogue," El Aissami said. He said the stand-off had been resolved after long talks with the rebelling inmates, including a guarantee from authorities to the prisoners that they would not be harmed.

Information Minister Andres Izarra wrote via Twitter that 831 inmates had come out of the prison.

After regaining control of the facility, officials began searching for inmates' weapons, El Aissami said.

Hundreds of inmates had been holed up inside the prison just outside the capital of Caracas since June 17 while armed prisoners resisted authorities. But officials have said only about 60 armed inmates were leading the uprising, preventing troops from entering and holding other prisoners hostage.

El Aissami said some of the rebellious inmates decided to end the uprising and turned themselves over to National Guard troops.

"Some of the leaders of these organizations, of the mafias that were there, have changed their vio-

lent attitude," he said. "They have been identified (and) they are now in the National Guard's custody." □



A Paraguayan soccer fan poses for pictures during a Group B Copa America soccer match against Venezuela in Salta, Argentina, Wednesday July 13, 2011.

(AP Photo/Fernando Llano)

Pact on adoptions ends a U.S.-Russian dispute

MICHAEL SCHWIRTZ

© 2011 New York Times

MOSCOW – More than a year after an adopted-child abandonment scandal led Russian officials to threaten a ban on adoptions of Russian children by Americans, the United States and Russia have reached an agreement that will allow such adoptions to proceed under heightened scrutiny. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and her Russian counterpart, Foreign Minister Sergei V. Lavrov, signed the accord at a ceremony in Washington on Wednesday, and officials from both sides expressed hope that it would end the animosity and suspicion that had plagued the adoption issue for years. "We take very seriously the safety and security of children that are adopted

by American parents, and this agreement provides new important safeguards to protect them," Clinton said. "It also increases transparency for all parties involved in the adoption process." Russian officials have long demanded greater oversight of U.S. adoptions.

Russia is one of the largest sources of adopted foreign children in the United States, with more than 50,000 adopted by U.S. families since 1991. While the vast majority have been successful, both sides have acknowledged some cases in which adopted children died from abuse in U.S. homes. The issue reached a crisis in April 2010, when a 7-year-old boy named Artyom arrived alone at a Moscow airport on a commercial jetliner from the United States. □



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Three bomb blasts shake central Mumbai

VIKAS BAJAJ

J. D. GOODMAN

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MUMBAI, India — Three explosions ripped through Mumbai at the height of the evening rush Wednesday, killing at least 21 people in what Indian officials called a coordinated terror attack on the country's economic capital.

The bombs struck central locations in the city, including the crowded Dadar neighborhood; Zaveri Bazaar, a popular jewelry market; and near the Opera House, according to India's Home Ministry, which said 141 people had been injured. The attack was the first in Mumbai since terrorists from Pakistan mounted a large-scale assault on hotels, a train station and a Jewish community center in November 2008, killing more than 160 people. Those attacks prompted India to break peace talks with Pakistan, although that dialogue has since been resumed and a high profile meeting is scheduled for

this month.

No group claimed responsibility for the bombings Wednesday. Palaniappan Chidambaram, the home minister of India, said at a news conference in New Delhi that investigation teams had been sent to the sites of the explosions and that Mumbai had been put on high alert.

A senior American law en-

forcement official said that early indications pointed to India-based militants, not to Lashkar-e-Taiba, a militant group in Pakistan. But the official cautioned that the investigation was still in its very early stages and that it was premature to make any firm conclusions about what group carried out the bombings. The police described the bombs as im-

proved explosive devices.

"This is an attack on the heart of India," Prithviraj Chavan, the chief minister of Maharashtra state, where Mumbai is located, told NDTV, a private television station.

Bhavesh Bhansali, a diamond wholesaler, was leaving his office near the Opera House when he heard a loud blast. Rushing to the site in a narrow, busy street, he said he encountered a bloody scene of dismembered bodies. Bhansali, who said he knew several of those killed, said the timing and location of the explosion suggested a "very well thought-out conspiracy." Sidewalks in the Dadar neighborhood were littered with shattered glass as crowds entering a nearby train station jostled to gawk at the scene. The explosive device in Dadar appeared to have been hidden in an electrical box near a bus station, officials said. Another device, at Zaveri Bazaar, was hidden in an umbrella, police officials said.

The device near the Opera House exploded just before 7 p.m. A fourth explosive device was found in Mumbai, but it did not detonate. The Zaveri Bazaar jewelry market has been bombed at least twice before, including an explosion in 2003 that killed at least two dozen people. In July 2006, seven coordinated bombs on Mumbai's commuter trains killed more than 200 people. The police in Mumbai have been bracing for trouble for months. In December, police officials said that several men suspected of belonging to Lashkar-e-Taiba, had entered the country; Indian and American officials have said the group carried out the terrorist attacks in November 2008. In February, in the city of Pune, 100 miles east of Mumbai, a bomb exploded in a popular bakery, killing 17 people and injuring 60. Indian officials have said that attack was the work of terrorists affiliated with Ilyas Kashmiri, a Pakistani militant commander. □



Railway Protection Force (RPF) policemen with a sniffer dog check belongings of passengers at the railway station after blasts in Mumbai, in Ahmadabad, India, Wednesday, July 13, 2011. Near-simultaneous bomb blasts rocked three busy neighborhoods during evening rush hour in India's busy financial capital Wednesday, killing 17 people in another terrorist attack on the city besieged by militants nearly three years ago.

(AP Photo/Ajit Solanki)

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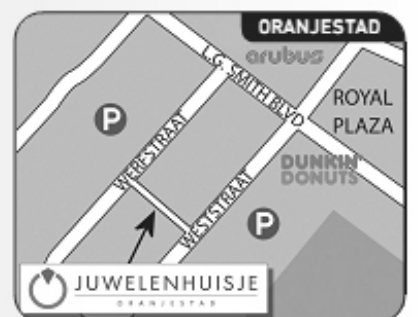
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Edible-nest swiftlet industry growing in Indonesia

JEFFERY DELVISCIO

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SUKADANA, Indonesia —

Along the spine-jarring road that runs through this city on the South China Sea, in between the sparse, water-logged shacks of corrugated aluminum and wood, tall, colorful buildings have begun to sprout.

They tower over their low-slung surroundings with doll-house facades, colored in baby blues, sunshine yellows and ruby reds.

Sukadana, a small coastal city in western Borneo, is in the midst of a building boom. But the new houses are not for people. They are giant birdhouses that play an all-day siren call through booming speakers to a small bird that makes edible nests that — at almost \$1,000 a pound — produce a broth that is highly prized, and highly priced, in China.

"They actually look nicer than a lot of the real houses," said Andrew Teixeira de Sousa, field director for the Gunung Palung Orangutan Conservation Program, which is active in the nearby Gunung Palung National Park. "But that's just because there's a lot more money going into those buildings."

The bird — called, appropriately enough, the edible-nest swiftlet — makes its nest by regurgitating long strands of sticky saliva onto the wall of a cave or house,

disease, aid blood flow, strengthen the body, moisturize the skin and even help mothers recover their youthful figures more rapidly after childbirth. One



Packages of bird nests on display in a shop at the Soekarno-Hatta International Airport in Jakarta, Indonesia, May 19, 2011. Sukadana, a small coastal city in western Borneo, is building giant birdhouses that play an all-day siren call through booming speakers to a small bird that makes edible nests that, at almost \$1,000 a pound, produce a broth that is highly prized, and highly priced, in China.

(Jeffery DelVescio/The New York Times)

as the case may be. These strands harden into a woven cup that provides a cradle for their young that hangs from the bare wall. Many Chinese believe that these hardened cups, when married with broth, bestow special health benefits. Some websites claim the nests can help fight

company advises mothers to feed their babies nest fragments dissolved in milk to "give the infant a flexible mind."

Real or not, these supposed health benefits have long commanded a high price. Iskandar, who like many Indonesians goes by one name, the head of gov-

ernance issues in nearby Riam Berasap Jaya village, said a good quality nest that had the classical cup shape and was free of dirt and feathers could fetch \$11 to \$23.

Iskandar, a former illegal logger, shares a property line with a swiftlet house; he has many friends involved in the trade and he is saving his money so that he can build one of his own. Since most of the forests in the area have been bought up by palm plantations, the logging business is not what it once was.

The edible bird's nest has been in Indonesia for hundreds of years, but it wasn't until the advent of the CD player that the boom really took off, said Lim Chan Koon, a senior lecturer at the University of Malaysia and co-author of "The Swiftlets of Borneo."

Before then, people would venture into caves to gather the nests. "People just let the birds stay or did nothing to improve the roosting areas," Lim said in an email. But that changed in recent decades. "Some wise guy thought of using playback of the swiftlets' vocalization to lure them into purposely built structures imitating the cave-like environment," he said.

Once enticed inside, the swiftlets encounter an environment designed to keep them regurgitating com-

fortably. Small openings in the rear of the building allow them access but keep predators out. A series of air holes allows air to circulate but keeps crosswinds to a whisper.

There are large bird feeders, and open-faced water tanks provide bathing and drinking water. Misters hooked to a thermostat keep the temperatures inside cool despite the blistering daytime heat.

Getting started in swiftlet farming requires what is, for this part of the world, a significant amount of money. Iskandar said a medium-size three-story swiftlet house can cost approximately \$16,000 — a prohibitive sum for many in this impoverished area.

Still, the houses are going up.

Almost every kink in the winding roads here reveals another one.

On some of the straighter stretches of road, the houses sit in clusters of threes and fours. In the early morning and evening when the birds return from foraging, the dark-winged jostling around the entrances seems like an avian freeway exchange — a black roiling mass of thousands of birds, each entering and exiting faster than the human eye can track. And between the birds and the electronic calls, the chirping never stops. □

Critic of Venezuela's Chavez convicted for remarks

PATRICIA ESPIN

Associated Press

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — An outspoken opponent of President Hugo Chavez has been convicted of spreading false information during a TV talk show, but it remains unclear if he will be going to prison. Oswaldo Alvarez Paz told the Globovision television channel Wednesday that the judge had not yet decided on details of the sentence. The charge normally carries a two-year prison term.

Alvarez Paz, a former presidential candidate and state governor, denied any wrongdoing.

"I have not spread false information on any kind," he said.

Alvarez Paz has hopes of being the opposition's candidate in the 2012 presidential election but he also faces separate charges of publicly inciting crime.

He rejected those accusations, saying: "My statements have not caused anxiety, hate or panic within the population."

Alvarez Paz was arrested last year and lat-

er released from police custody after saying in a television appearance broadcast on Globovision that Venezuela has turned into a haven for drug traffickers.

He also backed allegations by a Spanish judge that Chavez's government has co-operated with the Basque separatist group ETA and with Colombian rebels.

Chavez has dismissed those accusations.

The case against Alvarez Paz has drawn strong condemnation from opposition leaders and human rights activists, who say the case shows freedoms are being eroded by Chavez's socialist government. The New York-based Human Rights Watch has called the case a setback for freedom of expression in Venezuela.

Alvarez Paz said he and his lawyers would await more information from the judge before weighing their options, but he said they plan to appeal the conviction. He is currently prohibited from leaving the country.

"We are going to wait for the complete draft of the sentence," Alvarez Paz said. □

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MR: POPPER'S PENGUINS

daily: 4:00

matinee: 1:15 **PG**

TRANSFORMER 3

daily: 5:00 - 8:15

matinee: 1:45 **SP PG-13**

CARS 2

daily: 12:15 - 2:45

matinee: 12:30 - 2:45 **SP PG**

KUNGFU PANDA 2

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matinee: 12:00 - 2:15 **SP PG**

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Downtown crowd finds an uptown perch

GUY TREBAY

© 2011 New York Times

NEW YORK — It's the dining version of the scene where the Gale house judders down in Oz. Monochrome up until that point, the world is suddenly, gorgeously Technicolor once Dorothy opens the door.

On any Friday night at Red Rooster, the crowd is likely to encompass not only elements of New York's "gorgeous mosaic" but also David Dinkins, the former mayor who coined the phrase. There, either at the 76-seat restaurant, the 24 communal tables near the bar, the 20-seat bar itself or the 40-seat sidewalk cafe, neighborhood bankers rub elbows with Bill Clinton; Nora Ephron might be seated alongside Thelma Golden, director of the Studio Museum; Alicia Keys is likely to be found in a corner with Ralph and Ricky Lauren at a table bracketing her left side and a group of local church ladies on her right. That, in a sense, is a typical experience at Red Rooster, the door onto Harlem opened by the celebrity chef Marcus Samuelsson at the end of last year.

Smack on Lenox Avenue just north of 125th Street, and with glamorous neighbors like Marshalls, Staples and CVS, the place almost instantly became a destination not just for those seeking soul food cooked with a Swedish accent, but for people with an appetite for a dining experience reflective of the New York that Grace Paley once lauded for its "chromatic dispersion."

Very likely it was the latter that moved Barack Obama to choose Red Rooster as the spot for a \$30,800-a-plate fundraising dinner for the Democratic National Committee in March.

And, after all, there had to be someplace besides certain sections of hipster Brooklyn where — as Sam Sifton, the restaurant critic of The New York Times, pointed out in a review awarding Red Rooster two stars — he servers, the crowd and the atmosphere all come together to represent the

"polyglot, diverse" city that has historically been "a shining beacon for people of all races."

There had to be a place that put the lie to a circum-

scale Levain Bakery or the concept shop Swing.

"It's much more interesting here than the meatpacking district," said Phelps, a Northern California native

Harlem, by contrast, seems freshly vitalized, particularly when seen from Red Rooster's sidewalk cafe. Perched there on a breezy summer evening, a viewer beholds

ers; African immigrants in brilliantly patterned head wraps and flowing robes; young boys with their hair styled in neo-retro Kid 'n Play flattops; waitresses with plaited dreadlocks swept up into cantilevered coiffures; men in seersucker suits and straw trilbys with stingy brims; matrons dressed in flowing celestial-white ensembles; teenage boys with saggies slung so low on their hips that they're forced to pluck at them, delicate as antebellum maidens, to keep them from dropping to the ground.

Banshee-wailing throttles open, bareheaded daredevils do wheelies up Lenox Avenue on candy-colored Yamahas 250s.

"You don't really get run-of-the-mill-type people" at Red Rooster, Adrian Surgeon, the restaurant's naty greeter, said as he waited by the curb to greet a man in a pastel track suit as he exited a chauffeur-driven SUV.

"What you do get is a mirror of what Harlem offers as a whole."

Harlem offers this human panorama not only to patrons of Red Rooster, of course. The same spectacle may be enjoyed by diners at Red Rooster's neighbors Chez Lucienne and Sylvia's, at the Lenox Lounge and, come September, at the Pink Tea Cup, the legendary West Village soul-food spot that is establishing an outpost on Lenox Avenue.

"You can't not dress up if you're going out for the evening in Harlem," said Martin Johnson, an account executive for Kim Kardashian Fragrance. Despite the dreary weather on a recent Friday evening, Johnson and his date, Lati-fah Abdur, arrived at Red Rooster dressed, respectively, in a tie from Hermes, a suit from Ralph Lauren Black Label, shoes from Ferragamo, a Gucci bag and a flowing flowered dress from H&M.

"Why not preen," Johnson added, "when there are so many fabulous fashions to embark upon?" □



Cindy Crawford, right, with celebrity hairstylist Stephen Knoll outside the Red Rooster in New York, July 12, 2011. The Red Rooster, which hosted a \$30,800-a-plate fundraising dinner for President Barack Obama in March, is among the new establishments in Harlem that's helping the neighborhood revitalize its image.

(Elizabeth Lippman/The New York Times)

stance noted in an earlier Times article whose headline, "The Tablecloths Are White, and So Are Most Faces," neatly captured restaurant reality in this town. And there had to be a Manhattan neighborhood capable of giving the meatpacking district a run for its money, at the very least in terms of style.

And what better place than Harlem? Make that the "new Harlem," a historic neighborhood so long trumpeted by boosters as the next big thing that the creaky phrase seemed in need of an oiling.

This Samuelsson provided. "We're really now seeing the renaissance that had been imagined," Myiesha Phelps, a JPMorgan banker and Harlem resident, said this week, as she waited outside Red Rooster for a reservation she said it took months to procure. She may be correct, and not just on account of a spate of recently opened bars and galleries and retail establishments, places like the neo-Jazz Age boite 67 Orange Street, or the up-

who considers herself "a true Harlemitte."

Harlem is far more stylish, she added, and anyone who has spent time on West 14th Street lately would surely agree that the endless parade of "It" girl as-

the pageant of Harlem street life unfolding in a manner that would have made James Van Der Zee, the great African-American photographer and chronicler of Harlem, proud.

True, the dandies of Van Der



Bartender Moses Laboy mixes drinks at the Red Rooster in New York, July 11, 2011. The Red Rooster, which hosted a \$30,800 a plate fund raising dinner for President Barack Obama in March, is among the new establishments in Harlem that's helping the neighborhood revitalize its image.

(Andrea Morales/The New York Times)

pirants teetering around in Christian Louboutins has imbued the area with the look of a luxury-goods ghetto, where runway trends and logos go to die.

Zee's day, in their felt fedoras and raccoon coats, are long gone. In their stead are young men wearing cotton Breton fishermen's sweaters, rolled jeans and Topsid-



Trevor Eman ready to hit the race track in USA



ORANJESTAD - The ADRL Summer Nationals promises to live up to its name with 80+ degree temperatures. A hot weather tune up is going to be critical and Team Aruba is hoping their combination will be just what they need. Last year the team qualified third at this event, so there's no doubt that they know how to run at the top at US 131 Motorsports Park. "This is one of my favorite stops on the tour," said driver Trevor Eman. "It's a great track and the staff always goes out of their way to make this a great event. We have great fan support there and it's just all around a wonderful race. Last year we ran well at the Summer Nationals, so I'm hoping we can use that information and perform well again. We'll just have to play the cards we're

dealt with the weather. Everyone is in the same boat, so we can't complain!" Team Aruba is looking for their first win in their eye-catching 2011 Hass-built Aruba.com Mustang. "This car certainly has the ability to run at the top and make it to the winner's circle. We've had a bit of a learning curve, but we're starting to settle into a rhythm with it now. I hope we can get a win for the fans. Come on out to the US 131 and cheer us on!" Fans, keep up with Team Aruba at www.facebook.com/teamarubaracing and on Twitter @TeamArubaRacing. Find race results, team updates, videos and photos. Also leave your comments to cheer on Team Aruba! For more on your Aruba vacation visit www.Aruba.com. □



On Saturday in Sta. Cruz

Tang Soo Do Regional Championship on Aruba



An Aruban wedding for Daniella and John Rames



PALM BEACH - Congratulations on behalf of the Taste of Belgium Bistro staff for Daniella and John Rames, who got married during a romantic ceremony on the beach at the Marriott Resort this week. The couple met 'on the job' in 2005 and never left each other out of sight. Their engagement was announced in 2009 just before they flew to Aruba for a holiday and so the island was a logical choice for their wedding ceremony. The official part took place in the historic Town Hall in the Wilhelminastraat: the beach was where the bride and groom were blessed in the company of their family and friends.

John and Danielle were enjoying a terrific lunch and cocktails at Taste of Belgium's Bistro as the new Mr. and Mrs. Rames when we spotted their happy faces. As we say in Papiamentu: pabien! □

STA. CRUZ – On Saturday, July 16, 2011, the regional tournament for Tang Soo Do, under the auspices of the World Tang Soo Do Association Region 18, will be held on Aruba in the Centro Deportivo Libertador G. F. "Betico" Croes in Sta. Cruz from 9 am to 4 pm. Present

for the tournament will be Aruba's Grandmaster J.C. Shin and 12 Masters from the United States including Puerto Rico. The participants will represent Puerto Rico, USA, Costa Rica and Aruba. The morning will start with the Tiny Tigers & Little Drag-

on and the opening ceremonies will be held at 10 am followed by the official competition of black belt and then white belt followed by blue.

Everyone is invited to enjoy the competition of (World Tang Soo Do) on Aruba.

~ Tang Soo!!!! □



InselAir Aruba looking for employees



ORANJESTAD - New airline InselAir Aruba is looking for employees to fill occupancies for Pilots, Cabin Crew, Office employees and many more.

"We are a new Aruban company and it is important that our employees reflect this. We are looking to attract personnel within the coming months and many more in the following years," according to Frederick Nuboer, Chief Executive Officer of InselAir Aruba. The company plans

to fly to new destinations in the coming year all operating directly from Aruba.

Nuboer, who joined the company after it was founded on June 16th, 2011, makes it clear that "we are looking for young and senior professionals, who will do their utmost to represent InselAir Aruba as our own local airline."

The newly appointed CEO, who was born and raised in Aruba, feels the airline mentality should "reflect the Aruban morals and values.

It is important that our customers know our faces; we are their neighbors, family, daughters and sons. Flying with InselAir Aruba, should feel like coming home."

InselAir Aruba is momentarily recruiting over 50 positions. The airline is looking for Flight attendants, Ground Staff, Captains and First Officers for the turbo-prop Fokker 50 and jet MD 80 aircrafts. People can send in their resume at hrruba@fly-inselair.com.

About InselAir



F. Nuboer, CEO InselAir Aruba

InselAir Aruba was founded on March 30th, 2009. The airline focuses on delivering direct routes from Aruba, with great customer expe-

rience, safety and on-time performance. InselAir Aruba plans to start operating September 2011, with two Fokker 50 and one MD-80. □

Bonus
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Super 4-Card BINGO starting at 1pm!

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Special guests honored at the Renaissance Ocean Suites



ORANJESTAD - Recently at the Renaissance Ocean Suites vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special

friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of Goodwill title. The recent honorings were effected by

the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Renaissance Ocean Suites they call their home away from home. The following guest were honored as an Goodwill Ambassador for the Island of Aruba. Sonny Hen-



inger & Rita Webster, Andie & Barry Goldberg and also Margaret Lynch.

Miss Rita Webster commented that a rainy day in Aruba is still better than a good day at work in the States.

Pictured: ATA Rep. Ricardo Croes together with honorees and also Tino from the Renaissance Ocean Suites. □



Catch your own dinner with Driftwood! Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "From the pier to your plate!"



ORANJESTAD - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad.

Driftwood owner Herby

Merryweather has a love and passion for fishing. A fisherman who knows about fish, what our local waters have to offer, and what the words "fresh seafood" really mean.

What Herby catches will be served in his restaurant on the same day. Herby loves to share his fishing passion with the many visitors to the island. His fleet of a 35 ft.

Twin Engine Bertram yacht and a 50 ft. Twin Engine Post yacht, appropriately called "Driftwood I and II, is available for charters on a daily basis from 8am to



Winners of Intl. LUHRS Marina Group Blue Marlin Release Tournament 2009

12 noon and from 1 pm to 5pm.

Catch your own dinner

A charter includes: captain, mate, all fishing equipment, bait, sodas and bottled water. On a full day charter sandwiches and snacks are also included. You can call Herby directly at (297) 592 4040 or go to www.driftwoodaruba.com.

Driftwood Restaurant

This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their extended menu has been jubled by many. Driftwood offers daily specials, as well as a delicious 3-course menu for just \$24.

Rates:

\$360 - 1/2 day

\$720- full day
Rates per boat
Max. 6 people

Driftwood Restaurant

Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant; Klipstraat 12, Downtown Oranjestad
Tel: (297) 583 2515

www.driftwoodaruba.com

Opening hours: every day, but Tuesdays from 5pm till 10:30pm. □



Strong winds set to cause havoc at British Open

Northern Ireland's Rory McIlroy hits a shot from the 18th tee as South Africa's Louis Oosthuizen, second left, and South Africa's Charl Schwartzel, second right, look on during a practice round ahead of the British Open Golf Championship at Royal St George's golf course in Sandwich, England, Wednesday, July 13, 2011.

Associated Press

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SPORTS Aruba TODAY

Brady, P. Manning, Brees: It's time for NFL deal



New York Giants president and CEO John Mara enters a Manhattan law office, Wednesday, July 13, 2011, in New York.

Associated Press

**BARRY WILNER
HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Pro Football Writers**

NEW YORK (AP) — Calling the players' offer "fair for both sides," star quarterbacks Tom Brady, Peyton Manning and Drew Brees — plaintiffs in an antitrust suit against the NFL — said Wednesday "it is time" to wrap up negotiations on a deal to end the league's lockout.

Brady, Manning and Brees spoke as a group publicly for the first time with talks in a critical phase, four months into the league's first work stoppage since 1987. Players and owners met Wednesday morning at a Manhattan law office for the latest round of discussions.

Deadlines are coming up next week to get training camps and the preseason started on time.

Continued on Next Page



United States' Abby Wambach scores her side's second goal during the semifinal match between France and the United States at the Women's Soccer World Cup in Moenchengladbach, Germany, Wednesday, July 13, 2011.

Associated Press
Page 19

Mets trade closer Francisco Rodriguez to Brewers

By **BEN WALKER**
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Milwaukee Brewers got a quick start on the second half, picking up a big-time closer.

The NL Central co-leaders acquired former All-Star reliever Francisco Rodriguez from the New York Mets on Tuesday night, boosting the Brewers' bullpen for a second-half run at the playoffs.

The trade was announced only a half-hour after the All-Star game, with the Mets sending K-Rod and cash to Milwaukee for two players to be named.

Most likely, more trades all over the majors will follow before the July 31 deadline for making deals without waivers.

And this swap was yet another sign the Brewers are going all in this season. Milwaukee is tied with St. Louis for the NL Central lead, and John Axford has done well as its closer.

The Brewers, however, have had trouble finding steady setup men. "Francisco has been one of the



New York Mets relief pitcher Francisco Rodriguez celebrates the final out in the Mets' 5-2 over the Los Angeles Dodgers in a baseball game Monday, July 4, 2011, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

best relievers in the game for many years," Brewers general manager Doug Melvin said in a statement. "He is a high-quality arm who will be a tremendous asset to our bullpen as we prepare for the final months of the regular season and playoffs."

The Brewers traded for top starters Zack Greinke and Shaun Marcum in the offseason. They've made the playoffs just once since winning the

American League pennant in 1982, and are faced with the prospect of watching star slugger Prince Fielder leave via free agency after the season.

Fielder was the MVP of the All-Star game, hitting a three-run homer in the National League's 5-1 victory. "That is a really big trade. He can really help us, he is a great player.

It definitely gives us a spark. We are in first place now and getting him gives us

a little more help," Fielder said.

"He is going to bring the success he has had in his career, his confidence. He is going to keep doing what he is doing. You can't go wrong when you get that kind of talent.

You can never have too many guys.

No discredit to Axford at all, but to get him, too, is great," he said.

The 29-year-old Rodriguez is 2-2 with a 3.16 ERA and 23 saves, a year after a fracas with a family member at Citi Field led to his arrest, an injury and the early end of his season.

He is a four-time All-Star and set the single-season saves record with 62 in 2008 with the Angels.

Rodriguez has a contract clause that guarantees him \$17.5 million in 2012 if he finishes 55 games this year.

The right-hander has currently finished 34 and is on pace to achieve the mark, though he may not get ample chances to do that with the Brewers.

"As a player, you appreciate it because you are go-

ing out there every day. When management does a move like ... they are trying their best to help as much as they can," Fielder said.

"If we got a shot we know (Melvin) is going to do something to get that extra push. If we play hard and we have a shot, he is going to do everything he can," he said.

"It is a great night."

New York is 46-45 in the NL East and 11 games behind Philadelphia and 7½ behind Atlanta in the wild-card race.

This was the first major trade for general manager Sandy Alderson since taking over the Mets in the off-season and there could be more after the break, with high-priced All-Stars Carlos Beltran and Jose Reyes heading toward free agency following the season.

"We thank Frankie for his contributions to the Mets and wish him well with the Brewers," Alderson said. "This trade allows us to develop and more fully utilize other members of our 2011 bullpen and offers some payroll relief as well." □



NFL Players Association executive director DeMaurice Smith enters a Manhattan law office, Wednesday, July 13, 2011, in New York. NFL owners and player representatives arrived for another round of labor talks as the negotiations hit a critical phase.

Associated Press

NFL DEAL

Continued from Page 17

Although it seems the sides have agreed on the basic elements of how to split

more than \$9 billion in annual revenues, among the key sticking points recently have been how to structure a new rookie salary system and what free agency will look like.

In a statement released to The Associated Press via

the NFL Players Association, New England's Brady, Indianapolis' Manning and New Orleans' Brees said: "We believe the overall proposal made by the players is fair for both sides and it is time to get this deal done."

They continued: "This is the time of year we as players turn our attention to the game on the field.

We hope the owners feel the same way."

In response, the NFL issued a statement saying: "We share the view that now is the time to reach an agreement so we can all get back to football and a full 2011 season.

We are working hard with the players' negotiating team every day to complete an agreement as soon as possible."

Brady, Manning and Brees are among 10 players who are named plaintiffs in an antitrust suit that is pending in federal court in Minnesota.

That class-action lawsuit was filed March 11, hours after federally mediated negotiations to arrive at a new collective bargaining agreement broke down, and the old labor contract expired.

The NFLPA immediately dissolved itself, meaning players no longer were protected under labor law but instead were allowed to take their chances under antitrust law.

On March 12, the owners imposed a lockout on the players, a right management has to shut down a business when a CBA expires.

During the lockout, there can be no communication between the teams and current NFL players; no players — including those drafted in April — can be signed; teams won't pay for players' health insurance.

A series of court rulings followed, including one last week from an appeals

court that said the lockout could continue.

Talks resumed in May, overseen by a court-appointed mediator, U.S. Magistrate Judge Arthur Boylan, who is on vacation this week. Boylan ordered both sides to speak with him in Minneapolis next Tuesday, and the owners have a special meeting set for July 21 in Atlanta, where they could vote to ratify a new deal if one is reached.

That means there's intense pressure on NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell and NFLPA head DeMaurice Smith to keep things moving in a positive direction. Disruptions to the planned preseason schedule would decrease the overall revenue pie.

Smith was among those arriving Wednesday morning for talks, along with powerful team owners Robert Kraft of the Patriots, John Mara of the New York Giants and Jerry Jones of the Dallas Cowboys. □

Wambach lifts U.S. to 3-1 win over France at Women's World Cup

NANCY ARMOUR

AP National Writer

MOENCHENGLADBACH, Germany (AP) — The United States is in the World Cup final for the first time since it last won the title in 1999, and once again, it was Abby Wambach coming up big in a 3-1 victory over France on Wednesday.

Wambach broke a 1-1 deadlock with a strong header from Lauren Cheney's corner kick in the 79th minute. Cheney delivered the ball perfectly to the far post, and Wambach jumped over the scrum and pushed the ball past French goalkeeper Berangere Sapowicz. She let out a scream and did a sliding sprint into the corner, where she was mobbed by her teammates.

"We've achieved part of our goal. We're in the final," Wambach said. "We want to complete it. We want to be world champs." It was Wambach's third goal of the tournament and 12th of her career, tying her with fellow American Michelle Akers for third on the all-time World Cup scoring list.

Alex Morgan added an insurance goal in the 82nd, the first for the World Cup rookie. When the final whistle sounded, the Americans

rushed onto the field. Wambach found U.S. coach Pia Sundhage and gave her a bearhug as the pro-American crowd of 25,676 serenaded the team with chants of "U-S-A! U-S-A."

"Abby, she's just the best," Sundhage said. "I'm very happy to have her in our team. Great."

Despite the loss, the World Cup was a resounding success for the French, who made their first appearance in the semifinals and qualified for next summer's London Olympics.

Though the Americans are two-time World Cup champions, they haven't made the final since Mia Hamm, Julie Foudy and Brandi Chastain won it all in 1999. The Americans will now play either Japan or Sweden in Sunday's final in Frankfurt.

The Americans had only two days' rest following its dramatic shootout win over Brazil in the quarterfinals, their quickest turnaround of the tournament, and there had been concern that fatigue or emotions might get the best of them. But Wambach, who has been playing with an Achilles' tendon so sore it often keeps her out of practice, dismissed that idea.

And she sure didn't look hobbled.

Lauren Cheney, who'd giv-

en the Americans an early lead with her goal in the ninth minute, took a corner kick in the 79th and immediately looked for Wambach.

"I knew Abby was going to beat her," Cheney said.

Asked how, Cheney said, "Because she's Abby Wambach."

Fed by second-half sparkplug Megan Rapinoe, Morgan then added the insurance by outracing four defenders up the left side before stutter-stepping to throw Sapowicz off before taking her shot.

"The priority is not to accept another goal," France coach Bruno Bini said through a translator. "When that happens, you've had it. We conceded another goal and that was it for us." With the silky smooth Louisa Necib calling the shots, France dominated for most of the game, finishing with a whopping 25-11 advantage in shots. They missed two great chances in the first half, with goalkeeper Hope Solo having to tip Gaetane Thiney's shot away in the 30th and Sonia Bompastor rattling the crossbar two minutes later. Finally, in the 55th, France got its equalizer.

Bompastor floated in a cross from about 30 yards and, with the dangerous Gaetane Thiney right in



U.S. players celebrate winning 3-1 the semifinal match between France and the United States at the Women's Soccer World Cup in Moenchengladbach, Germany, Wednesday, July 13, 2011.

Associated

front of her, Solo had little opportunity to move. The ball flew right past her.

But just as they did Sunday against Brazil, the Americans got stronger

and stronger as the game went on before Wambach came through.

"In the end, we're in the finals," Wambach said, "and that's all that matters." □

Cavendish wins 11th stage and seizes green points jersey

er's green jersey.

Cavendish made the most of the last stage designed for sprinters before the race reaches the Pyrenees to claim his 18th stage win at the Tour, his third in this year's race. He won in 3 hours, 46 minutes, 7 seconds. "My most dangerous point is my acceleration," said Cavendish, who benefited from a perfect lead-out by his HTC-Highroad teammate Mark Renshaw to prevail with a bike length. "I'm super happy."

I hope I get to keep the green jersey this year. We've been fighting for it all along. All the intermediate sprints we've gone

for, the finishes we've gone for ... and 15 points is a narrow margin and we'll keep fighting." Cavendish, who took the jersey from Philippe Gilbert of Belgium, now leads Jose Joaquin Rojas by 16 points.

French rider Thomas Voeckler kept the race leader's yellow jersey after the 167.5-kilometer (104.1-mile) trek from Blaye-les-Mines to Laval. Voeckler finished 75th in the stage but with the same time as the winner. Despite his impressive tally of stage wins at the Grande Boucle, the coveted sprint champion's jersey has so far eluded the 26-year-old Cavendish.

He was second last year, 11 points behind Alessandro Petacchi of Italy, and second by 10 points to two-time sprint champion Thor Hushovd in 2009.

Cavendish pulled out before the Alpine stages in 2008 to conserve energy for the Olympic Games. Cavendish claimed revenge for his loss to Griepel in Tuesday's stage, when his former teammate surged ahead at the finish to claim his first win on the Tour.

"I said yesterday that it could have been four or five wins by now actually but I've got no regrets," Cavendish said. □



Mark Cavendish of Britain crosses the finish line ahead of Andre Greipel of Germany, right, to win the 11th stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 104.8 miles starting in Blaye les Mines and finishing in Laval, south central France, Wednesday July 13, 2011.

Associated Press

SAMUEL PETREQUIN

AP Sports Writer

LAVAU, France (AP) — British rider Mark Cavendish won a rainy 11th stage

of the Tour de France in a mass sprint Wednesday, easily beating Andre Greipel of Germany at the line to seize the leading sprint-

SPORTS BRIEFS

Steelers' Harrison to magazine: Goodell a 'devil'

NEW YORK (AP) — Heavily fined Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison calls NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell a "crook" and a "devil," among other insults, in a magazine article. The 2008 AP Defensive Player of the Year hasn't been shy about ripping the league after he was docked \$100,000 for illegal hits last season. In the August issue of Men's Journal, his rants against Goodell reach another level of wrath. Harrison says: "If that man was on fire and I had to piss to put him out, I wouldn't do it. I hate him and will never respect him."



Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker James Harrison (92) warms up before an NFL football game against the Carolina Panthers in Pittsburgh, in this Dec. 23, 2010 file photo.

Associated Press

His other descriptions of the commissioner include an anti-gay slur, "stupid," "puppet" and "dictator." □

Gatlin wins at Sardinia meet

DORGALI, Sardinia (AP) — American sprinter Justin Gatlin won the 200-meter race Wednesday at a small athletics meet on Sardinia, clocking 20.47 seconds to beat Rasheed Dwyer of Jamaica.

Dwyer was second in 20.87, with Britain's Leon Baptiste third in 21.01 at the 25th annual Paolo Delogu Memorial meet in Dorgali.

Gatlin, a former world champion who won Olympic gold in the 100 in 2004, is using smaller European meets to prepare for the world championships. Organizers for bigger events have refused to invite him following his comeback from a four-year doping ban.

He won the 100 at a meet in Madrid on Saturday, clocking 10.10.

He has qualified to run the 100 at the worlds in Daegu, South Korea, which start Aug. 27. □

2-time Ironman champ Stadler has heart surgery

FRANKFURT, Germany (AP) — A spokeswoman says two-time Ironman Hawaii champion Normann Stadler is recovering after undergoing heart surgery.

The 38-year-old German triathlete underwent the operation on July 4 at the Heidelberg University Hospital.

Spokeswoman Ulrike Voss says a failing heart valve and a nearby aortic aneurysm were repaired.

Stadler won the Hawaii competition in 2004 and 2006. □



This May 14, 2007, file photo shows Ironman competitor Normann Stadler after a news conference for the Ironman European Championship, in Frankfurt, Germany.

Associated Press



The wind blows the flag pole on the 1st hole at Royal St George's Golf Club, Sandwich, England, Saturday, July, 9, 2011. The British Open Golf Championship will be held at the course from July 14-17 2011.

Associated Press

A windy test awaits at Sandwich for British Open

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

SANDWICH, England (AP) — Steve Stricker can appreciate better than most how the British Open is unlike any other major.

One day after winning the John Deere Classic with a birdie-birdie finish on the green, manicured fairways of a TPC course in America's heartland, Stricker was trying to stand upright on the lunar links of Royal St. George's. The yardage book was more of a guide than the gospel. It was tough to control his golf ball through the air, even harder when it was bouncing along the ground.

"It's quite a turnaround," Stricker said Wednesday. "To learn and adapt to this style in 2½ days is a challenge."

That short time was all he needed, however, to learn what most others have about this links course in the southeast of England. It's a strong test for golf's oldest championship on a mild day. When the wind is up, which it has been all week, it can be a beast.

The 140th edition of this championship gets under way Thursday at Royal St. George's, as unpredictable as any links on the Open rotation. This is the course where Greg Norman in 1993 became the first Open champion to win with all four rounds in the 60s. It's

the same course where Ben Curtis was the only player to break par when it was last here in 2003.

A dry spring has kept the rough from getting too thick, which is but a small reprieve.

"It's a big challenge, and we are the best players in the world here," PGA champion Martin Kaymer said. "So it should be tough. At the end of the day, everybody has to deal with the same golf course."

Even so, it's not always the same for everyone.

The piece of information getting most of the attention on the eve of the British Open was the weather report. The forecast is for gusts up to 25 mph Thursday morning with patches of rain, before the wind tapers off in the afternoon. The wind is expected to remain moderate Friday morning, then switch directions and return to gusts upward of 25 mph by the end of the day. If that holds true, the players teeing off early Thursday and late Friday could get the worst of it. And as a reminder of how significant the tee times can be, remember that Louis Oosthuizen teed off at 6:41 a.m. in the second round last year at St. Andrews, missed the worst of the weather in his round of 67 and was on his way to a seven-shot win. Among the early starters Thursday: Rory McIlroy, the

overwhelming favorite to add the claret jug to his U.S. Open trophy.

McIlroy, who has not played since his record-setting win at Congressional last month, did most of his preparation last week at Royal St. George's. He played in a strong, southwesterly wind, which is typical this time of the year. The 22-year-old from Northern Ireland played at 6:30 a.m. Wednesday in a wind coming out of the opposite direction.

He played at the same time Tiger Woods used to practice, and while the gallery for McIlroy wasn't quite as large, the kid caused a frenzy when fans tried to get his autograph after he finished. For the rest of the day, officials banned autographs in the area leading from the 18th green.

It's a different test for McIlroy, with conditions much more firm and dry than at the U.S. Open.

"It's firm. It's fast," he said. "But the thing is with this wind, you're going to have to keep the ball low. But sometimes it's hard to run the ball into these greens because they're so undulating and they can go so many different ways."

The wind direction during three days' of practice has the Royal & Ancient concerned enough that it might move some tees forward. □



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WNBA Roundup

Phillips helps Fever past Sun

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Katie Douglas scored 20 points as the Indiana Fever beat the Connecticut Sun 90-78 on Wednesday for their seventh consecutive victory.

Jessica Davenport scored 14 points for the Fever, who have won 10 and lost three and lead the WNBA standings. Erin Phillips and Tamika Catchings had 13 apiece.

Six Indiana players scored in double figures for just the third time in the club's history.

Indiana made 11 3-pointers, with six Fever players making at least one 3.

Tan White went 5 for 5 from 3-point range and finished with 17 points for Connecticut (6-5). Tina Charles had 15 points and 11 rebounds, but Renee Montgomery, the league's No. 5 scorer, was held to six points on 2-for-12 shooting.

Indiana led 32-18 at the end of the first quarter. The Fever went 4 for 5 from 3-point range and made 12 of 19 shots overall in the first 10 minutes.

Mercury 112, Lynx 105

At Minneapolis, Diana Taurasi scored 27 points, including five 3-pointers, as Phoenix rallied to grab sole possession of first place in the Western Conference.

Reserve DeWanna Bonner had 24 points for Phoenix, which has won five straight and nine of 10 after beginning the season with three consecutive losses.

Penny Taylor added 19 points, eight rebounds and eight assists for the Mercury (9-4). She scored 14 in the fourth quarter to help Phoenix overcome an 11-point deficit. Seimone Augustus led the Lynx (7-4) with 22 points.

Lindsay Whalen added 19 and Rebekkah Brunson had 16 points and had 16 rebounds. Rookie Maya Moore had 15 points on 6-for-18 shooting.

Liberty 91, Dream 69

At New York, Nicole Powell scored 20 points to help Liberty win for the sixth time in seven games.

Kia Vaughn had 14 points, Leilani Mitchell scored 12 and Plenette Pierson 11 for New York (8-5). Cappie Pondexter and Quanita Hollingsworth each added 10 points.

Angel McCoughtry scored 17 points, Coco Miller had 15 and Armintie Price added 12 for Atlanta (3-9), which has lost six of eight.

The Liberty scored six consecutive points, capped by Pondexter's fast-break layup, to take a 64-43 lead with 5:42 left in the third.

New York led 54-37 at the break, its highest scoring first half of the season.

Sky 72, Shock 54

At Rosemont, WNBA scoring leader Sylvia Fowles scored 21 points to lead Chicago to the victory.

Fowles, now averaging 20.4 points, added 13 rebounds in front of a franchise-record crowd announced at 13,838 at Allstate Arena.

The Shock (1-12) has lost seven straight. Interim coach Teresa Edwards is 0 for 2 since taking over following Nolan Richardson's resignation last week.

Reserve Jennifer Lacy had 13 points and Andrea Riley added 12 for Tulsa.

Epiphanny Prince had 11 and reserve Tamera Young added 10 points for the Sky (7-7), who led 21-9 after one quarter. □



Indiana Fever guard Erin Phillips, left, makes a pass around Connecticut Sun's Renee Montgomery in the first half of a WNBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Wednesday, July 13, 2011.

Associated Press

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Drug stops HIV among hetero couples, not just homosexuals

MIKE STOBBE
AP Medical Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — An AIDS drug already shown to help prevent spread of the virus in gay men also works for heterosexual men and women, two studies in Africa found. Experts called it a breakthrough for the continent that has suffered most from AIDS.

"These studies could help us to reach the tipping point in the HIV epidemic," said Michael Sidibe, executive director of the United Nation's AIDS program, in a statement Wednesday as the study results were announced.

"This is really a game changer," said Dr. Jared Baeten, the University of Washington researcher who was a leader of one of the studies.

The prevention drug is Truvada, a pill already on pharmacy shelves to treat people with HIV. It's made by Gilead Sciences Inc., based in California. Another Gilead drug, Viread, was also used in one of the two African studies.

Earlier research with Truvada found it prevented spread of HIV to uninfected gay men. But experts were thrilled Wednesday at the first compelling evidence that AIDS medications can prevent infection between men and women. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which gave advice last fall for use of the preventive drugs among gays, is now developing guidance for heterosexuals in this country.

At the same time, national and international health officials said it's far from clear how preventive use of these drugs will play out. How many people would want to take a pill each day to reduce their risk of HIV infection? Would they stick with it? Would they become more sexually reckless?

Another issue: There already is a supply problem. In Africa, 6.6 million people are now on AIDS drugs, but 9 million people who are el-

igible for the treatment are on a waiting list, according to the World Health Organization. In the United States, many state assistance programs that help people access AIDS medications also have waiting lists.

The first of the new studies,

Truvada, 18 in those on Viread, and 47 of those on dummy pills. So the medications reduced the risk of HIV infection by 62 percent to 73 percent, the researchers said.

"Our results provide clear evidence that this works



Gilead Sciences Inc.'s Truvada pill is displayed in their lab in Foster City, Calif. Two studies announced Wednesday, July 13, 2011 show the pill Truvada helped prevent the spread of the AIDS virus between heterosexual couples in Africa. The drug is already used to treat people with HIV.

(AP Photo/Paul Sakuma)

run by the CDC, involved more than 1,200 men and women in Botswana. About half took Truvada each day. The other half got a fake pill.

An analysis of those who were believed to be regularly taking the pills found four of those on Truvada became infected with HIV, compared to 19 on the dummy pill. That means the drug lowered the risk of infection by roughly 78 percent, researchers said.

The second study was funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and run by the University of Washington. It involved more than 4,700 heterosexual couples in Kenya and Uganda. In each couple, one partner had HIV and the other did not. The uninfected were given either daily placebos or one of the Gilead pills — Truvada or Viread.

The study found 13 HIV infections among those on

in heterosexuals," said Baeten, who co-chaired the study.

An independent review panel on Sunday said the benefit was clear-cut and stopped handing out placebos, instead offering the preventive drugs. Essentially, they deemed it unethical to withhold the medications from people who had been on placebo, Baeten said. In both studies, participants also were offered counseling and free condoms, which may help explain the relatively low overall infection rate. The studies were to be announced at an AIDS conference in Rome next week. But following the recommendation of the review panel to the University of Washington study, both study teams made hasty decisions to release the results. These are the third and fourth widely reported studies of Gilead's treatments. □

Vaccination not a CIA front, usually...

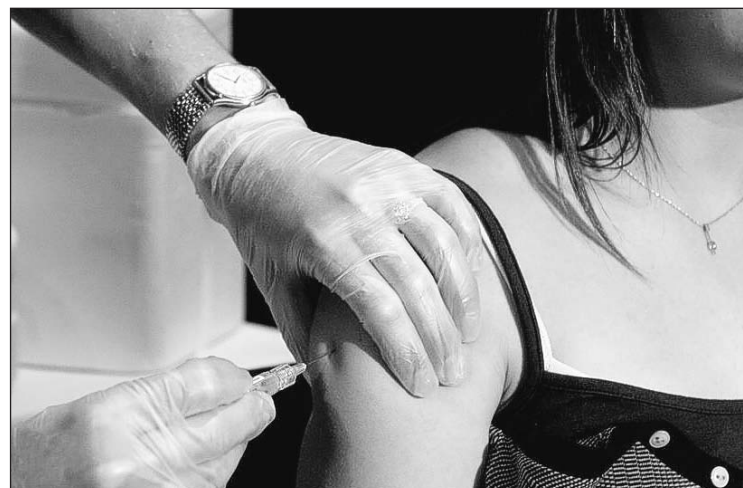
MATT APUZZO
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — In his 2009 speech to the Muslim world, President Barack Obama announced a new effort to eradicate polio, which persists in three Muslim countries. One of the biggest hurdles had been persuading some local leaders that vaccination campaigns were independent health efforts, not nefarious programs being run by the CIA.

With the Obama administration's assurances, Muslim scholars issued a religious decree that parents should vaccinate their children. The administration and public health officials cheered as the number of new polio cases began to fall in some hard-to-reach areas. Recently, however, as the U.S. closed in on Osama bin Laden's compound in Pakistan, the CIA used a vaccine program as cover, a way to try to

first reported by the Guardian newspaper in London. The Associated Press has confirmed details about the vaccination program from U.S. officials.

"It's just so unfortunate. It's the worst kind of labeling you could put on a public health campaign," Bari said Wednesday. "Any backlash against this will hurt the children of Pakistan." Polio is endemic in three Muslim countries — Nigeria, Pakistan and Afghanistan — but some Muslim leaders have been suspicious of vaccination efforts, suggesting they were part of a CIA sterilization campaign. Allaying those fears has been crucial to getting doctors and nurses into some areas. The vaccination program used in the CIA's hunt for Osama bin Laden was a real one, for hepatitis. Neither the White House nor the CIA would speak about the program. A senior U.S. official, speak-



Muslim scholars issued a religious decree that parents should vaccinate their children. The administration and public health officials cheered as the number of new polio cases began to fall in some hard-to-reach areas. Recently, however, as the U.S. closed in on Osama bin Laden's compound in Pakistan, the CIA used a vaccine program as cover, a way to try to collect DNA from bin Laden's family and confirm he was hiding inside a walled compound. Public health officials swiftly criticized the move, saying the independence of health workers must be sacrosanct.

collect DNA from bin Laden's family and confirm he was hiding inside a walled compound.

Public health officials swiftly criticized the move, saying the independence of health workers must be sacrosanct. World Health Organization spokeswoman Sona Bari said health officials were caught by surprise when the story was

ing on condition of anonymity because the program remains secret, said the decision to use vaccinations as a cover was a rare move that reflected the seriousness of the hunt for bin Laden. Intelligence officials were under pressure to confirm bin Laden was in the compound before the president risked American lives. □

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Google social net is about preserving leadership

BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Google didn't build its new Plus service simply to have an online hangout like Facebook.

Rather, Google's new social-networking endeavor is about trying to gain valuable insights into people's lives and relationships. This could help the company do a better job of targeting ads so that advertisers would pay more and have less reason to spend their money on Facebook.

If it succeeds, Plus represents Google's best shot yet at muscling into a market that has threatened to topple the Internet search and advertising leader, as Facebook leads the way in making the online world social. Plus is Google's carefully scripted venture into a territory where its previous efforts have been duds.

On the surface, Plus is reminiscent of Facebook — with a Google touch. It lets people share photos and status messages, chat with friends and acquaintances and follow news updates. A prominent feature called circles allows users to organize the people they interact with into groups, such as family, close friends or fishing buddies. Users can choose to share things only among certain circles.

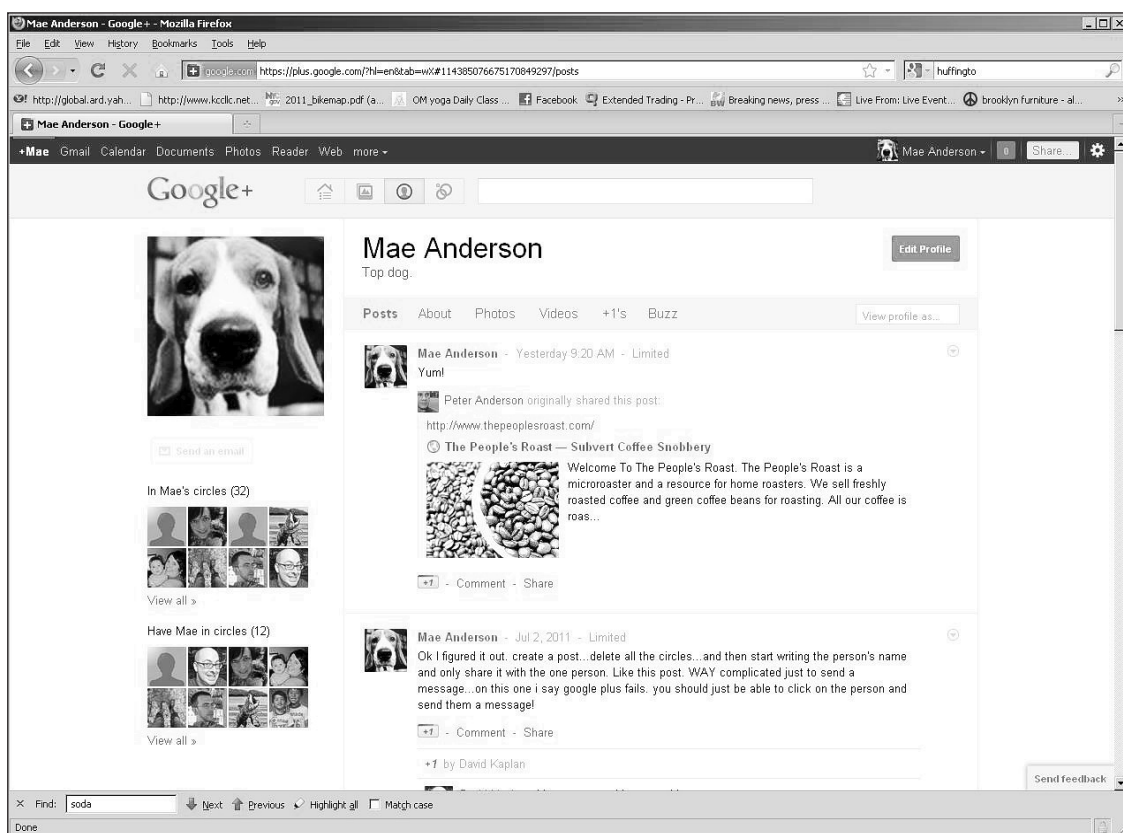
Google Plus is still in a restricted, test phase, and invites to join are highly coveted. Only time will tell if it takes off among the broader public or if it's too little, too late to face off with Facebook and Twitter on the social front — just as Microsoft has failed to surpass Google in search with latecomer Bing.

Google Inc., which reports

its latest quarterly results on Thursday, has done quite well without its own social network. Its search engine accounts for two-thirds of queries made in the U.S., and even more in parts of Europe. Its revenue is expected to surpass \$36 billion this year, the bulk of it from text ads that appear alongside search results and other Web content.

But online behaviors are changing. People are spending more time on Facebook and other social networks. And they are increasingly relying on their friends' recommendations when deciding where to eat and what movies to watch.

Google, meanwhile, has bungled past social media efforts. A sharing program called Wave was quickly killed off because users didn't know what to make of it. Buzz, a later venture, was the center of a privacy fiasco. Google had been too aggressive about automatically creating circle of friends, which inadvertently revealed whom they've corresponded with on Gmail. Early response to Google Plus has been positive. But that's no guarantee for broader success. As Google botched one social media effort after another, Facebook grew exponentially. Today, half of Facebook's 750 million worldwide users log on to the site every day. That's roughly the entire population of the U.S. and U.K. combined. More than 250 million people engage with Facebook in some form on outside websites each month around the world. They do this by clicking the ubiquitous "like" and "recommend" buttons on news



This screen shot shows a page from Google Plus. As the online world turns social with Facebook leading the way, Google's new Plus service represents its best shot yet at muscling into a market that has threatened to topple the Internet search leader.

Associated Press

and other sites or by logging on to websites using their Facebook passwords. Google's chairman and former CEO, Eric Schmidt, has acknowledged that the company failed to respond to Facebook's threat fast enough. His successor, Google co-founder Larry Page, has made social networking one of his top priorities since he took over in April.

"We don't think it's a coincidence that (Google Plus) was introduced less than

three months after Page returned to the CEO post," said Standard & Poor's equity analyst Scott Kessler in a note to clients.

Facebook's greatest advantage is the immense trove of information that its users have shared about themselves through about 4 billion posts and connections they make collectively every day. Facebook knows what people are reading, eating and watching. It knows who's friends with whom, and

which friends people trust for recommendations on what shoes to buy and which plumbers to hire.

Google can't index most of this information on its search engine because Facebook doesn't share it. Instead, Facebook has formed a search partnership with Google rival Microsoft Corp. In May, Microsoft's Bing search engine started to use information from people's Facebook preferences to tweak its search results. □

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Bernanke says Fed would consider new stimulus effort

BINYAMIN APPELBAUM

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WASHINGTON – The Federal Reserve chairman, Ben S. Bernanke, gave a subdued account of the economy's health Wednesday, saying that he expected the economy to grow at a moderate pace during the rest of the year, with unemployment declining "only gradually."

The unexpected weakness

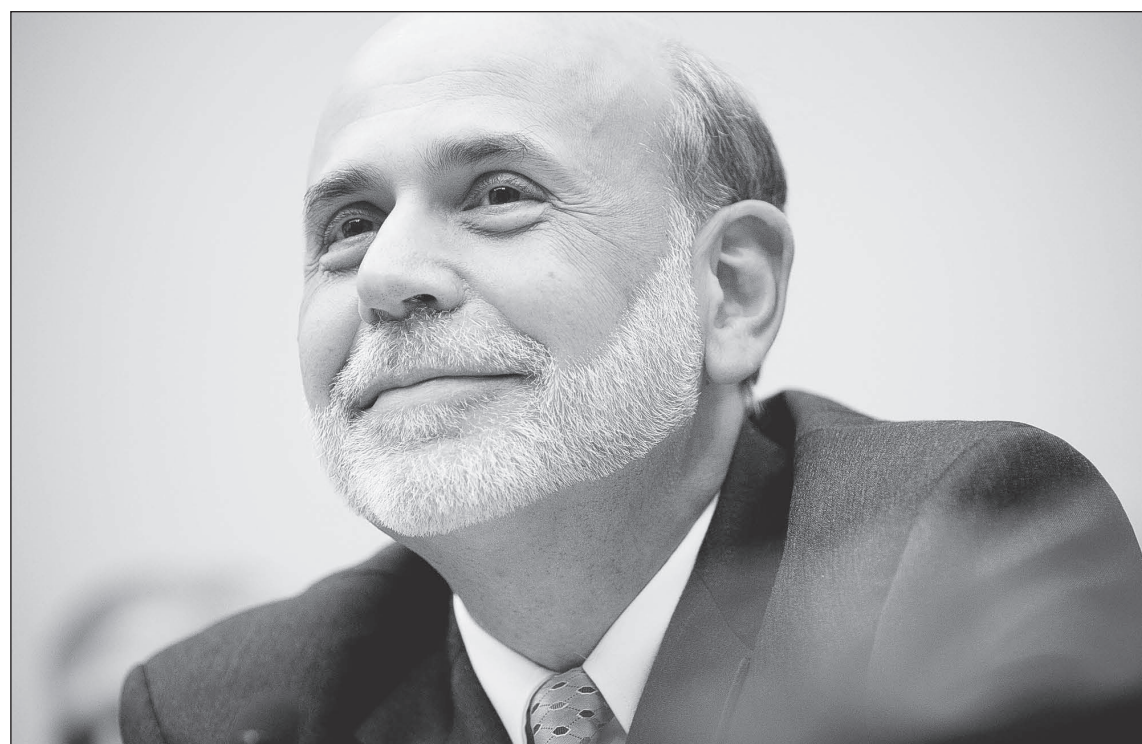
cymaking committee discussed the possibility of additional efforts at their most recent meeting, at the end of June, but they were divided regarding the costs and benefits, according to minutes of that meeting, which the Fed released on Tuesday.

Bernanke made clear Wednesday that a resumption of the central bank's economic revival cam-

ing too fast. The Fed's most recent forecast, last month, projected little risk of deflation.

Bernanke maintained his view, however, that a recent rise in inflation is unlikely to persist, consistent with his view that "this is still not a very strong recovery."

Since he last spoke, however, the government reported that employment increased by only 18,000



Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke testifies on Capitol Hill before the House Financial Services Committee in Washington, July 13, 2011. Bernanke said Wednesday that the Fed is rethinking its decision to refrain from a new stimulus effort.

(Philip Scott Andrews/The New York Times)

is forcing the Fed to reconsider its determination early this year to refrain from new efforts to stimulate growth. While no additional actions appear imminent, Bernanke said in congressional testimony Wednesday that the Fed would be prepared to act if necessary.

He described options including an explicit commitment to maintain its stimulus efforts for a longer period, the resumption of asset purchases and steps that would encourage commercial banks to use the reserves they currently keep on deposit with the central bank.

"I think we have to keep all the options on the table," Bernanke said before the House Financial Services Committee. "We don't know where the economy is going to go."

Members of the Fed's poli-

paign faces a high hurdle. He said that the Fed would look for two conditions: economic weakness beyond current expectations and a renewed threat of deflation.

The first seems obvious to most people. The second, however, may be the more important factor.

The Fed's decision to resume asset purchases last summer was made in large part because the central bank feared that prices might begin to decline, a phenomenon that can undermine growth because it causes people to delay purchases, fueling a downward cycle.

The pace of price increases since then has rebounded toward levels that economists consider healthy. Indeed, earlier this year, concern shifted to the possibility that prices were ris-

ing in June and that exports were weaker than expected. That has led a number of private forecasters to slash estimates of second-quarter growth. And Bernanke's remarks on Wednesday reflected greater concern about the health of the economy.

Among the headwinds facing the economy is "the slow growth of consumer spending, even after accounting for the effects of food and higher energy prices," Bernanke said in his prepared testimony. "The ability and willingness of consumers to spend will be an important determinant of the pace of the recovery in coming quarters."

Later, Bernanke described the Fed's economic projection for the rest of this year – growth of about 3.5 percent – and said, "We'll see if that's the case." □



David Cox, chief executive of L.E. Cooke Company, a fourth-generation, family-owned nursery, works in a field in Visalia, Calif. L.E. Cook was one of 1,444 businesses to receive an introduction to Immigration and Customs Enforcement's stepped-up worksite enforcement program in 2009, almost three times the number audited in 2008.

(Max Whittaker/The New York Times)

How to survive an immigration audit

ADRIANA GARDELLA

© 2011 New York Times

David Cox was at his desk in September 2009, when his receptionist announced an unexpected visitor, a special agent from Immigration and Customs Enforcement, also known as ICE. Cox is chief executive of L.E. Cook Co., a fourth-generation, family-owned nursery in Visalia, Calif., that grows deciduous trees and shrubs. The agent handed Cox a letter and informed him he had three days to produce I-9 employment-eligibility forms for all current employees. Cox said the agent was "pleasant and non-threatening," but he noticed she carried a gun.

L.E. Cook was one of 1,444 businesses to receive an introduction to ICE's stepped-up worksite enforcement program in 2009 – almost three times the number audited in 2008. Last year, 2,196 businesses were audited. An ICE representative said the agency did not categorize audits by business type and that the law applied across industries. "Any company is at risk at any given time," said Leon Versfeld, an immigration lawyer in Kansas City, Mo. In one prominent case, American Apparel, the clothing manufacturer, was forced to terminate 1,800 undocumented workers after a 2009 audit. Chipotle Mexican Grill, the restaurant chain, has let go hundreds of workers since its audit began last year.

While the administration of George W. Bush focused on headline-making raids that resulted in arrests of immigrant workers, the Obama administration has gone after employers with ICE's I-9 audits on the theory that employers who hire unauthorized workers create the demand that drives most illegal immigration.

In addition, the Social Security Administration has resumed sending "no-match" letters after a three-year hiatus. The letters, which alert employers that information on an employee's W-2 form does not match information on file with the Social Security Administration, had been halted in 2007. The main purpose is ostensibly to ensure that employee Social Security accounts are credited properly, but the letters can also be used by ICE to show that an employer had reason to believe an employee might not have documentation.

"The master narrative of immigration reform is being crafted around the notion of unscrupulous employers seeking cheap labor," said Craig Regelbrugge, a lawyer and lobbyist with the American Nursery and Landscape Association. □

BlackBerry maker sees challenges in phone launch

CHARMAINE NORONHA

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP)

— BlackBerry maker Research In Motion Ltd.'s co-CEO told shareholders Tuesday that the company is facing challenges as it moves toward what it calls its biggest product launch yet.

At RIM's annual meeting Tuesday, Jim Balsillie cited delays in releasing the company's new operating system. But he said seven new BlackBerry smartphones will run the advanced system in the coming months, enabling RIM to stay on track to meet its financial guidance for the year.

Mike Lazaridis, who shares

the title of co-CEO with Balsillie, said the delays were due to company's efforts to get its smartphones to meet market expectations, adding that the technology in the new BlackBerry Bold jumps a generation.

"It may have delayed us, but we are going to come out ahead," Lazaridis said of the company's decision to hold off on the rollout of the new BlackBerry Bold in order to bolster it to face what he called an "arms race" brewing among its smartphone competitors. The annual meeting comes after RIM's share price has fallen more than 50 percent this year.

The company, based in



Grant Gardiner, co-chief executive Mike Lazaridis, co-chief executive Jim Balsillie and Rob Staley are seen at the Research in Motion annual meeting in Waterloo, Ontario, Tuesday, July 12, 2011.

Associated Press

Business Briefs

Puerto Rico Medicaid program buckles under debt

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP)

— Doctors in Puerto Rico are threatening to cut off service to nearly a million patients as a result of a standoff between the government and an insurance company over reimbursements for treating poor people.

The standoff began shortly after the government launched a revamped Medicaid program in October. Complaints about delayed payments

have increased in recent months.

As a result, the government is terminating an \$810 million contract with Medical Card System Inc. It is the largest health insurance provider under the revamped program.

Sen. Margarita Nolasco said Wednesday that legislators also are debating a proposal that would make a state agency the sole payer to medical providers. □

Nokia, Siemens reaffirm joint venture ownership

HELSINKI (AP) — Nokia Siemens Networks says its two founding owners are committed to keeping their stakes and ruled out any outside equity investment. Nokia Siemens Networks chairman Olli-Pekka Kallavuo said Wednesday that the two owners are in the best position to improve the company's value.

The mobile infrastructure provider is a 50-50 joint venture between Finland's Nokia Corp. and Germa-

ny's Siemens AG.

Market watchers have speculated that Nokia would want to dispose of its ownership in the venture and focus on developing its handset business while deepening co-operation with Microsoft Corp.

The world's leading handset maker Nokia has seen its market share decline in past years amid stiff competition in the smartphone segment. □

Waterloo, Ontario, once dominated the corporate smartphone market but has been struggling to come up with a device to compete with Apple Inc.'s iPhone and smartphones running Google Inc.'s Android operating system.

RIM also got poor reviews for its tablet, called the PlayBook, launched in April, and about 1,000 of the devices had to be recalled because of defective software.

The company's inability to stay on top of innovation and create a product that consumers find as sexy as the iPhone has disgruntled some shareholders who are anxious to see what's next in its device roster.

Some at the meeting were critical of RIM's lack of marketing efforts in the face of rivals such as Apple — including one shareholder who brought pictures of the RIM's PlayBook tablet display at a Best Buy store that he said fell short of the rival offerings.

Lazaridis said the company is continuing to build on RIM's reputation for security when it comes to email and added that trials of its PlayBook tablet were

under way at more than 1,500 companies.

"This includes multiple government agencies and groups from both the public and private sectors," he said.

The falloff in RIM's share price has prompted takeover rumors. One shareholder asked on Tuesday about a "poison pill" rights plan to block a hostile bid.

Balsillie said a rights plan could be put in place in a "blink of an eye" if a hostile offer was made for the company. As it struggles to regain its market position, the BlackBerry maker's management structure has also come under criticism. Balsillie and Lazaridis currently serve as both co-CEOs and co-chairmen of the company. Some analysts and shareholders have called for an independent chairman to push the company back on an upswing.

RIM avoided a shareholder vote on a plan to split the roles of CEO and chairman before the meeting when it reached a deal with Northwest & Ethical Investments LP to establish an independent committee to review the

role of the chairman.

Northern Securities analyst Sameet Kanade said setting up a committee just prolongs the need to split up the roles.

"We don't think it bodes well for the stock in the short to medium term," Kanade said from Toronto. "It looks nice on paper, but it doesn't really solve the more pressing concerns of who is looking out for shareholder concerns on the board and who is looking out to make sure the CEO or the co-CEOs are taking the right and decisive actions."

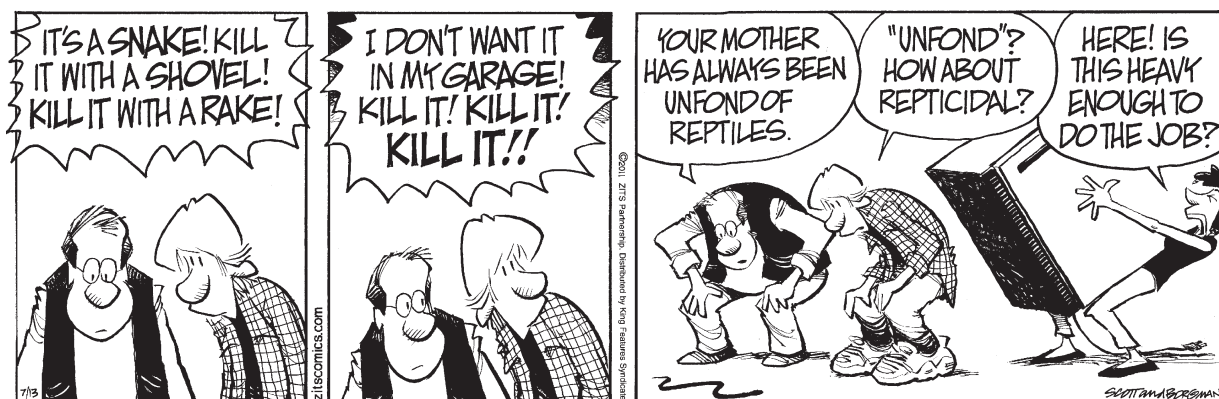
Kanade said he believes Lazaridis should be the CEO with Balsillie as the chief marketing officer or filling other roles.

"Accountability would be more direct with one person running it.

There's no one looking out for the shareholders' interests on the board."

In a vote of confidence Tuesday, shareholders re-elected the RIM slate of directors, including lead director John Richardson. U.S.-based proxy advisory firm Glass Lewis had recommended that shareholders withhold their support for Richardson. □

Conceptis Sudoku



		4	2					
				6				
		9	8	7	5	3		
	5			1			6	
2								1
7								8
6								7
	1			4			5	
		8	9		2	4		

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

7/13

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer	5	8	9	6	4	3	1	7	2
	4	1	6	5	7	2	8	3	9
	7	3	2	9	1	8	4	5	6
	6	5	1	4	9	7	3	2	8
	8	9	3	2	5	6	7	1	4
	2	4	7	8	3	1	6	9	5
	1	6	8	7	2	5	9	4	3
	9	7	5	3	8	4	2	6	1
	3	2	4	1	6	9	5	8	7

ACROSS

- ACROSS**
- 1 "When You ____ Upon a Star"
 - 5 African nation
 - 10 Clamors
 - 14 Tiny amount
 - 15 High-intensity beam
 - 16 Concept
 - 17 Trade
 - 18 Each ____; one another
 - 19 Pub orders
 - 20 Traditional ring spot
 - 22 Los Angeles ballplayers
 - 24 Lamb's mother
 - 25 More modern
 - 26 Waterbirds
 - 29 Nourished
 - 30 Home of logs
 - 34 Long, slimy fishes
 - 35 Present topper
 - 36 Fragrant hair dressing
 - 37 "All bets ____ off"
 - 38 Baby's room
 - 40 European lang.
 - 41 Wealth
 - 43 Spring month
 - 44 Go first
 - 45 Arrange
 - 46 Distant
 - 47 Chops down
 - 48 Singer Bobby
 - 50 Tiny vegetable
 - 51 Deals with
 - 54 Pagets
 - 58 Wickedness
 - 59 Pains
 - 61 ____ the Terrible
 - 62 White fish
 - 63 Discourage through fear
 - 64 Pianist Peter
 - 65 Wonder-struck
 - 66 Luge vehicles
 - 67 Expanded
- DOWN**
- 1 Intelligent
 - 2 Des Moines, ____
 - 3 Celebrity
 - 4 Unfortunate
 - 5 Sphere of the world

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7/13/11

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

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| football players | 52 Declare openly |
| 44 Jumping | 53 Longest river |
| 46 Monetary | 54 Stoop |
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Today In History

Today is Thursday, July 14, the 195th day of 2011. There are 170 days left in the year.

Highlights in history on this date:

1536 - France signs Treaty of Lyons with Portugal for attack on Spain.

1544 - England's King Henry VIII crosses to Calais to join Holy Roman Emperor Charles V in campaign against France's King Francis I in Picardy.

1789 - Citizens of Paris storm and capture the Bastille prison and release prisoners, marking start of French Revolution. Now the French national day.

1790 - France's King Louis XVI accepts the revolutionary constitution.

1881 - William H. Bonney, known as "Billy the Kid" and the reputed killer of 27 men, is shot dead at age 21 by Sheriff Pat Garrett in New Mexico.

1886 - Britain and Germany agree on frontiers of Gold Coast and Togoland in Africa.

1933 - German political parties, other than Nazis, are suppressed, and a law is passed that provides for the sterilization of two million people deemed unfit for reproduction.

1934 - Oil pipeline between Mosul, Iraq, and Tripoli, Lebanon, is opened.

1967 - U.N. General Assembly adopts resolution asking Israel to halt action it was taking to alter city of Jerusalem after Six-Day War.

1971 - Government troops in Jordan attempt to crush Palestinian guerrilla movement.

1988 - Iran, at the United Nations, accuses the United States of committing a "barbaric crime" in shooting down Iranian commercial airliner.

1991 - Chances for Middle East peace talks improve when Syria's President Hafez Assad says he finds U.S. President George Bush's proposals for such talks "acceptable."

1992 - Navy helicopters and volunteers rescue 44 beached whales in Sydney, Australia.

1993 - Somali militiamen fire on U.N. headquarters in a new wave of assaults hours after Somali militants distribute leaflets calling for

revenge attacks on American soldiers.

1994 - The U.N. Security Council urges the world to aid the estimated 250,000 Hutu refugees from Rwanda crushed into Goma, Zaire.

1995 - While the United Nations struggles to feed thousands of Muslims driven from Srebrenica, Bosnian Serbs order government forces and civilians to leave another eastern enclave.

1997 - Regional legislators elect K.R. Narayanan, India's first president from an "untouchable" caste.

2001 - Leaders of India and Pakistan meet for the first time two years after the nations came close to fighting a war in the disputed Kashmir province, but talks fail, raising fears of more hostilities between the nuclear-armed neighbors.

2002 - A gunman with links to neo-Nazi groups fires one shot at French President Jacques Chirac as the president rides in an open jeep in the annual Bastille Day military parade in Paris.

2003 - The New York Times appoints former managing editor Bill Keller the newspaper's new executive editor following the June 5th resignation of Howell Raines and his deputy, Gerald Boyd, in the aftermath of a journalistic fraud scandal involving reporter Jayson Blair.

2004 - The much-awaited report from an official British inquiry into pre-war intelligence on Iraq criticizes Prime Minister Tony Blair but finds no deliberate distortions.

2005 - A rocket fired from Gaza kills a young Israeli woman, hours after Israeli forces killed a militant, and Israel hit back with four air raids in Gaza, further shaking a five-month truce already threatened by a recent suicide bombing.

2006 - A suicide bomber in Karachi blows himself up outside the home of a prominent Shiite Muslim cleric, killing the cleric and a bodyguard and triggering a riot in the southern



Today is Princess Victoria of Sweden's birthday.

Pakistani city.

2007 - The Los Angeles archdiocese reaches a \$660 million settlement with more than 500 alleged victims of clergy sex abuse.

2008 - The United States criticizes Russia for intentionally violating Georgian airspace by sending military aircraft over the rebellious Georgian region of South Ossetia.

2009 - Iran hangs 13 members of a Sunni Muslim rebel group convicted of bombings and killings in the country's restive southeast near the borders with Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Today's Birthdays:

Cardinal Jules Mazarin, French statesman (1602-1661); James McNeill Whistler, U.S. artist (1834-1903); Gustav Klimt, Austrian painter (1862-1918); Ante Pavelic, Croatian fascist leader (1889-1959); Isaac Bashevis Singer, Polish-born U.S. author and Nobel laureate (1904-1991); Woody Guthrie, U.S. singer and songwriter (1912-1967); Gerald Ford, U.S. president (1913-2006); Ingmar Bergman, Swedish film director (1918-2007); Victoria, crown princess of Sweden (1977-).

Thought For Today:

Jealousy is no more than feeling alone among smiling enemies — Elizabeth Bowen, Irish novelist (1899-1973). □

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Centro Medico Tel: 584-5779

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Oranjestad	582-4000
Noord	587-0009
Sta. Cruz	585-4710
Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

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Emergency	911
Police	100
Fire Dept.	115
Fire Dept. II	582-1108
Police Tipline	11141
Hospital	587-4300

Oranjestad

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Police	582-4000

San Nicolas

Ambulance	584-5050
Police station	584-5000
BGD San Nicolas	584-1606
Valero Security	584-1720

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In Berlin, rocking the fashion trade fair

Gisela Williams

© 2011 New York Times

BERLIN — The vast airfield was throbbing with heavy-metal music and done up like a post-apocalyptic scene out of "Mad Max." Thousands of stylized Berliners flooded the area, bouncing between vintage Airstreams selling cocktails and art installations: tusk-like sculptures that formed an enormous ring, glowing car-size orbs, an eccentric band of pilots in top hats riding motorized sculptures that looked like giant wind-up tin toys.

At one point, in the shadow of a formidable but antiquated airport terminal, a gang dressed like 1950s greasers started swing-

a year. But a trade show? Nein!

Yet that is precisely what makes Bread & Butter, among the world's most important urban and street fashion trade fairs, a uniquely Berlin experience. Held this year from July 6 to 8, it drew 100,000 visitors and 600 brands like Adidas, Diesel and G-Star — a not-insignificant economic jolt for this chronically poor city. But for the city's swelling creative class, it was just another excuse to frolic on somebody else's dime.

That was the message on the night of July 5, when the trade show kicked off with performances by Mos Def, the Australian metal group Airbourne and the



An opening night party for the Bread and Butter urban and street fashion trade fair in Berlin, July 5, 2011. Held this year from July 6 to 8, the fair drew 100,000 visitors and 600 brands like Adidas, Diesel and G-Star.

(Gordon Welters/The New York Times)



The German band Deichkind performs at an opening night party for the Bread and Butter urban and street fashion trade fair in Berlin, July 5, 2011.

(Gordon Welters/The New York Times)

ing baseball bats at rusty cars. Onlookers joined the orchestrated riot, tipping over one of the cars. Closer to the arena-size stage, a group of young women in skintight neon outfits, with matching makeup and hair extensions, posed and flirted with the crowd. They could have been hired actors or guests playing with fashion's edges.

A person stumbling into this spectacle worthy of Burning Man could easily mistake it for an artsy free-for-all in Berlin, a city that gave birth to the Love Parade, a world famous electronic dance music festival, and which celebrates more than 100 other arts festivals

German hip-hop band Deichkind on the grounds of Tempelhof, the historic airport in the city center famous as an architectural symbol of Nazi Germany and the site of the Berlin Airlift. It was mothballed in 2008 and is now home to Bread & Butter and other nonaerial uses.

Klaus Wowereit, the city's party-loving mayor, arrived at the opening celebration wearing jeans, mingling in the VIP tent along with Berlin designers like Michael Michalsky, Francois Girbaud of Marithe(PLUS) Francois Girbaud and the actress Andrea Sawatzki. "It's a super concept and there was a great atmo-

sphere," Wowereit said later. "It's their 10th year. A great reason to celebrate." Also part of the VIP crowd was Dirk Thomas, a former nightlife impresario who is helping to revive Merz b. Schwanen, a German label that produces high-end T-shirts woven on old circular knitting machines. He is now a cheerleader for heritage brands like Red Wing boots and vintage selvedge blue jeans and was on the lookout for new talent.

"Nigel is the next big thing," Thomas said, referring to Nigel Cabourn, a British designer who revived his brand four years ago. "He travels around the world to find clothing with a history, like the jackets made

for early climbers of Mount Everest, and then reinvents them with modern details and coloring."

Thomas also said that, after living in Berlin for 15 years, he was seeing the city finally make the transition from a fashion dead zone where "everyone, men and women, used to wear secondhand military pants" to a fashion capital.

By dusk, after some four hours of revelry, the concert began and the crowd went wild for Deichkind. Pot smoke scented the air, and the crowd bounced along with the band, which shared the stage with a huge SpongeBob-like balloon and someone in a teddy bear suit who jumped on a trampoline. □



Sprawl rules at an opening night party for the Bread and Butter urban and street fashion trade fair in Berlin, July 5, 2011.

(Gordon Welters/The New York Times)

Entertainment Briefs

Cops called to Nicki Minaj's hotel

DALLAS (AP) — Records show police were called to a Dallas hotel after rapper Nicki Minaj argued with a friend, whom she said shoved a suitcase across her chin and lip. An incident report says Minaj, whose real name is Onika Maraj, refused to file a police report after the Monday call. She opened a Britney Spears concert Tuesday in Dallas. The incident report says Minaj asked a hotel employee to call police and told an officer she was sharing a room with the man with whom she was arguing. The report says she had slight bruising and the inside of her lip was cut. In tweets Wednesday, Minaj seemed to deny reports of being hit, saying anyone who "slapped or punched" her would "leave on a stretcher." Minaj's representative didn't immediately comment. □

Actress plans plea in NYC bar run-in

NEW YORK (AP) — A person familiar with the case says actress Paz de la Huerta is set to admit she threatened to hit a former reality TV figure in a trendy New York nightclub. The person says the "Boardwalk Empire" actress will plead guilty Thursday to harassment in her March encounter with Samantha Swetra. Harassment is a violation, not a crime. The person spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the plans in advance of Thursday's court date. The person says de la Huerta's punishment will include a day of community service. De la Huerta's lawyer says he's working with prosecutors toward a plea deal and expects some movement on the case Thursday. Prosecutors declined to comment. Swetra appeared on the MTV reality series "The City." □

Longoria's club closes on money woes



Eva Longoria

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A Las Vegas nightclub owned by "Desperate Housewives" co-star Eva Longoria is temporarily closing its doors amid financial troubles. Longoria's Beso club within the CityCenter complex on the Las Vegas Strip closed Monday to save money. Beso LLC bankruptcy attorney Lenard Schwartz said Wednesday that the restaurant attached to the club will remain open because it is profitable. He says the nightclub could eventually be renovated and reopened. Beso LLC filed in January for bankruptcy to remain operating while reorganizing nearly \$5.7 million in debt. The federal Chapter 11 filing claimed the nightclub was losing more than \$76,000 per month. Longoria owns nearly one-third of the business but is also listed as an unsecured creditor. □

'Sister Wives' stars challenge bigamy law

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The polygamous family featured on cable television's "Sister Wives" plans to challenge the bigamy law that makes their lifestyle illegal. Attorney Jonathan Turley is expected to file the lawsuit challenging the Utah law in Salt Lake City's U.S. District Court on Wednesday. Turley represents Kody Brown and his four wives — Meri, Janelle, Christine and Robyn. Kody Brown is only legally married to Meri Brown. The Browns belong to the Apostolic United Brethren church, which practices polygamy as part of its faith. The Browns and their 16 kids moved

to Nevada in January after Utah authorities launched a bigamy investigation. No charges were ever filed, but Tuesday, Utah County Attorney Jeff Buhman said the investigation is ongoing. Bigamy is a third-degree felony in Utah. Under the law, a person can be guilty of bigamy simply through cohabitation, not just by having multiple legal marriage licenses. Turley said the lawsuit doesn't aim to challenge Utah's right to refuse to recognize plural marriage. "All we're saying is that the state cannot criminalize the private relations of consenting adults," Turley told The Associated Press. □



Actress Halle Berry attends The Fragrance Foundation's 2011 FiFi Awards at The Tent at Lincoln Center, in New York. Police have arrested a suspected stalker at the home of Halle Berry. Sgt. Enrique Mendoza says off-duty Los Angeles police officers hired by Berry saw the man climbing over a locked security gate at Berry's Hollywood Hills home. On-duty officers were called and arrested 27-year-old Richard Franco on suspicion of stalking. He remains jail.

(AP Photo/Evan Agostini, File)

Man pleads not guilty to stalking Halle Berry

ANTHONY MCCARTNEY
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man charged with stalking Halle Berry pleaded not guilty Tuesday and was ordered to stay 500 yards (457 meters) away from the Oscar-winning actress if he is released from jail. Richard A. Franco, 27, did not speak during a brief arraignment hearing that occurred hours after he was charged with stalking. Deputy Public Defender Ken Star, entered the plea on his behalf and did not oppose the court order protecting Berry that was issued by Judge Upinder S. Kalra. The actress did not attend the hearing, but has come face-to-face at least twice since Saturday, when he first breached security at her Hollywood Hills home. A prosecutor and Star said Berry identified Franco after his arrest Monday night. Star read from a police report that stated Berry "appeared very shaken and showed signs of stress" when police asked her to identify Franco, but he conceded his client admitted to being at her home. "She's in extreme fear of this defendant," Deputy District Attorney Wendy Segall said during the arraignment. Berry obtained a civil restraining order requiring Franco to stay 100 yards (91.41 meters) away from her and her 3-year-old daughter on Tuesday. She wrote that Franco almost followed her into her kitchen on Sunday afternoon. She said she was able to lock the door and call police before he entered her house. Kalra's order will expire in three years or once the case against Franco has concluded. Franco will return to court on July 27 for a preliminary hearing where some of the evidence against him will be presented. He faces up to three years in prison if convicted. He remains jailed with bail set at \$150,000. □

The magic lever



DAVID BROOKS

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The world economy is a complex, unknowable organism. Most of us try to diversify our investments and balance risk and security to protect against the unexpected.

But a few years ago a group of bankers thought they had the magic tool to help them master financial trends and predict the future. Sophisticated risk assessment models would enable them to rewrite the rules and make more money. Their arrogance was soon exposed. Along came the financial crisis.

In the middle of the crisis another group emerged, believing they had the magic lever to alter the economy's trajectory. Democrats argued that through gigantic deficit spending, they could bring unemployment rates down sharply and produce a "summer of recovery."

The spending they began must have done some good to cushion the recession, but either through a failure of theory or a failure of implementation, their lever was not as powerful as they promised. Federal spending rose to 24.91 percent from 19.38 percent of gross domestic product, but the economy refused to rebound and the world is awash in oceans of debt.

Now a third group has emerged, also claiming that it has the magic lever to control the economy. Staunch Republicans argue that taxes are central to determining economic growth. Tax cuts, they argue, have huge positive benefits and tax increases have disastrous negative effects.

In the middle of the current budget negotiations, these Republicans argue that the tax increases the Democrats are proposing – ending some deductions for the affluent, hitting oil and gas companies – would be terrible for the economy. These unacceptable increases would be worse than the threat of national default, worse than a decade of gigantic deficits.

Not many Americans have this expansive view on the power of tax policy. According to the Gallup Organization, only 20 percent of Americans believe the budget deal should consist of spending cuts only. Even among Republicans, a plural-

ity believes there should be a mixture of tax increases and spending cuts.

Yet the GOP is now oriented around this 20 percent. It is willing to alienate 80 percent of voters and commit political suicide because of its faith in the power of tax policy.

These three groups – bankers, Democratic Keynesians and staunch Republicans – have one thing in common: They all believe they have identified the magic lever. They believe they can control their economic fate.

Some of us do not believe there is a magic lever. Deficit spending stimulates growth, but not by that much. Tax increases are bad, but they are not disastrous. We believe there are a thousand factors that go into economic growth, and no single one is dispositive.

We look at the tax cuts of 2001 and do not see tremendous gains. We look at the tax increase of 1982 and do not see a ruinous disaster. We look at high deficit eras and do not see an easy correlation between deficit spending and growth. On the contrary, if you look around the world there's a slight negative correlation between government size and prosperity.

We believe that if you rest everything on a single lever (Increase deficits! Cut taxes!), you give people a permission slip to be self-indulgent. They will spend or cut to their heart's content and soon you'll be facing national bankruptcy. We believe that even if you are theoretically right, your policies will be distorted by human frailties and special interests.

People in my camp form a silent majority. But we have been astonishingly passive during these budget negotiations. The tax cut brigades and the Medicare/spending brigades are well organized. The people who believe in balance and the fundamentals sit piously on the sidelines. The tragedy is that in Barack Obama and John Boehner we have leaders who would like to do something big. They seem to know that you need bipartisan cover if you want to really cut spending. They seem to know circumstances for deficit reduction will only get worse in the years ahead. But they are bracketed on all sides – by the tax cut and Medicare brigades, by the works hatching budget gimmicks that erode trust, by political hacks who don't want to lose their precious campaign issues: tax cuts forever, Medicare spending without limit.

Mostly, they are buffeted by the proud, by those who think they have a magic lever to control human destiny and who will not compromise it away. This is the oldest story known to man. □



JOE NOCERA

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Oddly enough, the 25th anniversary of the worst nuclear accident in history has been marked by journalism about animals. Two magazines, *Wired* and *Harper's*, have published lengthy articles about the rebirth of animal life in the so-called exclusion zone around the Chernobyl nuclear plant in Ukraine.

All well and good, but given the recent Japanese nuclear accident, wouldn't you rather know what has happened to the, er, people who were affected by Chernobyl?

I know such a person. Her name is Maria Gawronska. Thirty years old, smart and attractive, Maria is a native of Poland who moved to New York in 2004. I met her through my fiancée maybe four years ago. She always wore a turtle-neck, even on the hottest of days.

Maria's hometown, Olsztyn, in northern Poland, is more than 400 miles from Chernobyl. She was 5 years old in April 1986 when the reactor melted down, spewing immense amounts of radioactivity upwind, where it spread across the Ukraine, Belarus and, yes, northern Poland.

"At first," Maria said, "they said it was an explosion but it wasn't dangerous." But within a few days, the Soviet Union grudgingly acknowledged the accident. Maria recalls that everyone was given iodine tablets, and told to remain indoors. She stayed in the house for the next two weeks.

She also remembers hearing

Chernobyl's lingering scars

people say that it would be years before Poles knew the health consequences of the accident. Among other things, radiation can wreak havoc on the thyroid gland; that is why people take iodine tablets, to minimize the amount of radioactive iodine that their thyroids absorb.

Sure enough, over the course of the last quarter-century, there has been an explosion of thyroid problems in Olsztyn. Maria told me that entire wings of hospitals are now devoted to thyroid disease. This is no exaggeration.

Dr. Artur Zalewski, an Olsztyn thyroid surgeon, confirmed that his practice had seen a huge increase in thyroid operations since the early 1990s. Some people have cancerous thyroids, but many more have enlarged thyroids, or thyroids that have stopped functioning properly.

Zalewski also cautioned me, though, that there was no scientific proof connecting thyroid disease to Chernobyl. Partly because of Soviet intransigence, and partly because of what *The Lancet* would describe as "considerable logistical challenges," epidemiological studies were never begun that might have helped link the disaster to Poland's thyroid problems. The studies that have been done have focused on cancer. According to *The Lancet*, it is possible that increases in childhood leukemia and breast cancer in Belarus and Ukraine can be attributed to Chernobyl. But because of "flawed study design," these studies are not definitive.

When I emailed Maria's mother, Barbara Gawronska-Kozak, however, she was adamant: "I am convinced that Chernobyl increased thyroid problems." Barbara, a scientist herself (though not an epidemiologist), told me that this was what the "average citizen of Poland" believed. She herself required a thyroid operation a decade after the accident. Her mother had two thyroid operations. Her best friend

had a thyroid operation. An old high school friend recently had a goiter removed. Maria told me that her father was the only family member who had not had a thyroid problem.

Around five years ago, it was Maria's turn. Gradually, her thyroid became so enlarged that it impinged on her trachea, making it hard to breathe in certain positions. The unsightly growth, of course, was why she always wore a turtle-neck. A specialist in New York told her that he had never seen anything quite like it, and that the operation to correct it was high risk and could possibly damage her vocal cords. So Maria decided to return to Poland and have the operation in her hometown. She did so earlier this year.

Just as in Chernobyl's case, it will be years before we know how the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station will affect the health of those who lived nearby. Although much less radiation escaped, it did leak into the water, and traces have been found in the food supply. It makes one wonder how to deal with nuclear power, which offers the tantalizing prospect of clean energy – along with the ever-present risk of disaster should something go wrong. These are not simple questions – as we are reminded whenever there is an accident like Fukushima Daiichi. Or Chernobyl.

For Maria, at least, the story ends happily. Zalewski, who operated on her, didn't flinch when he saw the size of her thyroid.

The operation was a success. Her vocal cords are just fine. She has more energy than she has had in years.

Maria told me that while she was in Olsztyn, she sought out old friends. As soon as they heard why she had returned, she said, "They all laughed and pointed to their own scars." When I saw her not long after she returned to New York, I couldn't help noticing her own small scar. She wasn't wearing a turtle-neck. □

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